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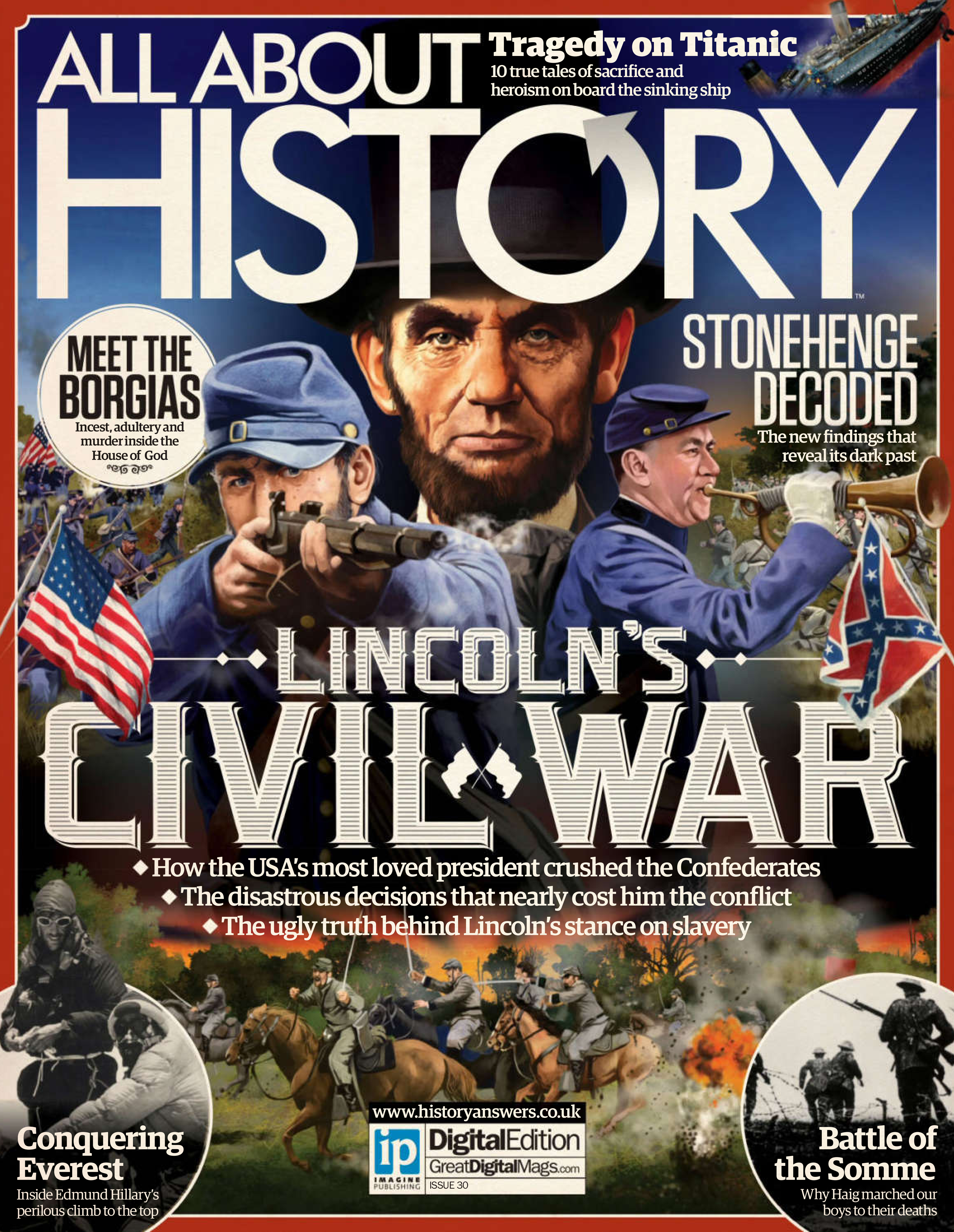

Tragedy on Titanic

10 true tales of sacrifice and heroism on board the sinking ship

MEET THE BORGIAS

Incest, adultery and murder inside the House of God

STONEHENGE DECODED

The new findings that reveal its dark past

LINCOLN'S CIVIL WAR

◆ How the USA's most loved president crushed the Confederates
◆ The disastrous decisions that nearly cost him the conflict
◆ The ugly truth behind Lincoln's stance on slavery

Conquering Everest

Inside Edmund Hillary's perilous climb to the top

Battle of the Somme

Why Haig marched our boys to their deaths

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ISSUE 30

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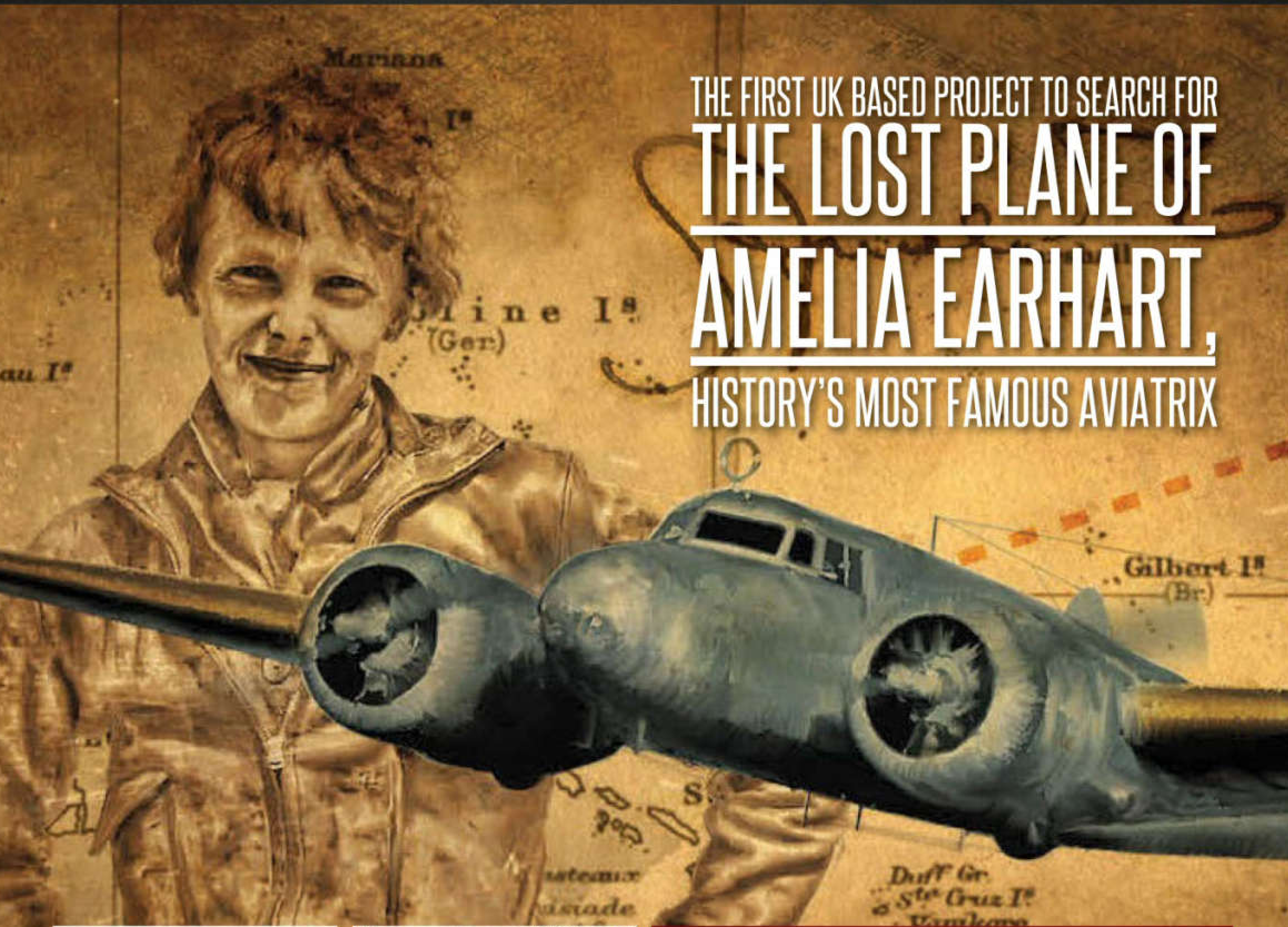
THE SEARCH FOR AMELIA EARHART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On page 40, discover how Edmund Hillary and Sherpa Tenzing Norgay beat the odds and conquered Everest

Welcome

Over and over again, Abraham Lincoln has come out on top in the hugely popular presidential ranking surveys carried out by Americans every year - and for good reason. Born in a one-room log cabin, Lincoln proved the epitome of the American dream when he rose to power through sheer hard work and good fortune. He won his supporters not with force, but armed with intelligence and wit alone. He opposed slavery in the midst of huge adversity, and when his election threatened to tear the United States apart, his leadership in the civil war brought it back together again.

But there was a darker side to Lincoln - one that the surveys have almost allowed us to forget. In this issue, we expose both the great achievements and shameful shortcomings of the USA's favourite president during its most turbulent time. Turn to page 28 for the full story.

Elsewhere, we tell ten true tales from on board RMS Titanic starting on page 74, and on page 50 we reveal the adultery, incest and murder that bred in the sinful House of Borgia.

Until next time!

Alicea

Alicea Francis
Editor

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History of magic
From the Druids to Houdini, we explore millennia of magic and illusion, including a look into a Renaissance alchemist's lab and a day in the life of a witch hunter.

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What if?
Find out how Oxford University professor Steven Gunn imagines the world had Henry VIII managed to have a son with Catherine of Aragon.

40

Conquering Everest
With the release of the new *Everest* movie, we take a look back at Edmund Hillary's death-defying climb of Earth's highest mountain.

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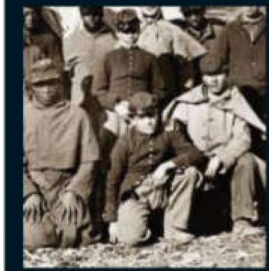

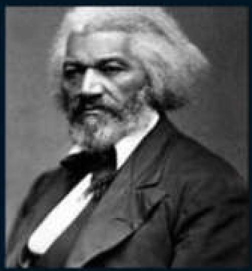

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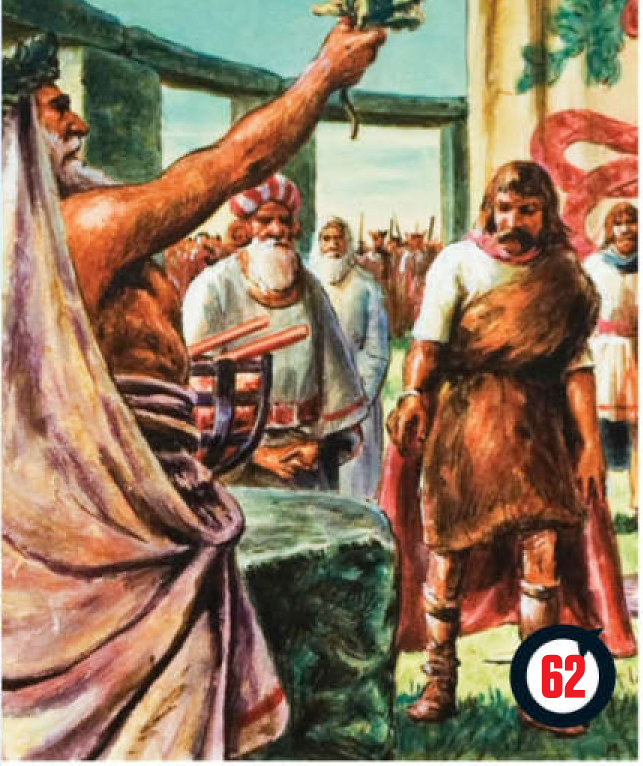

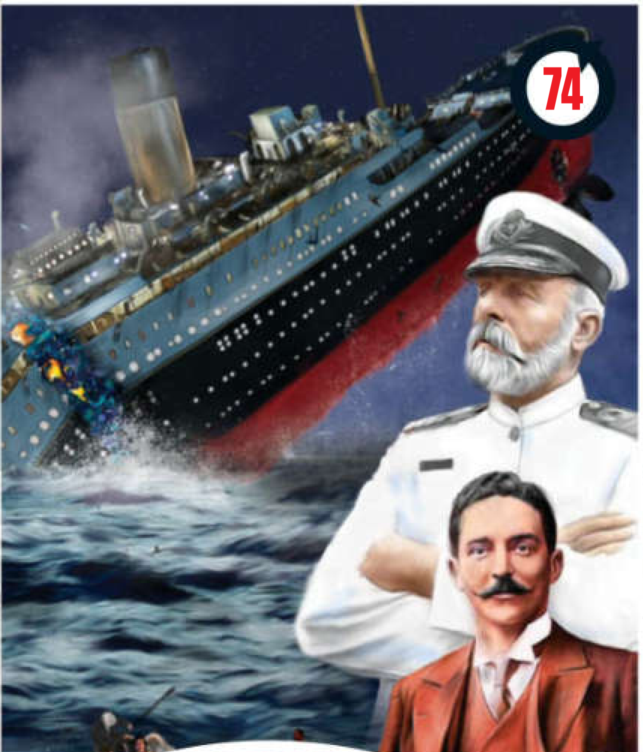

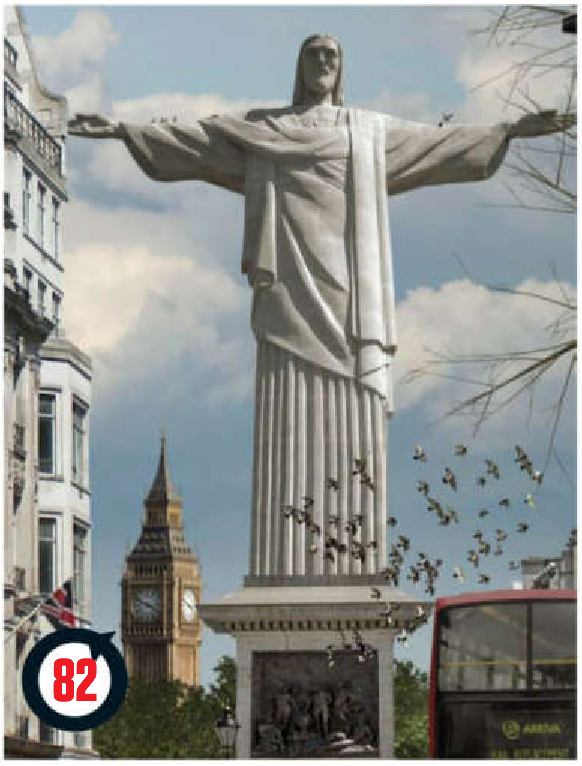

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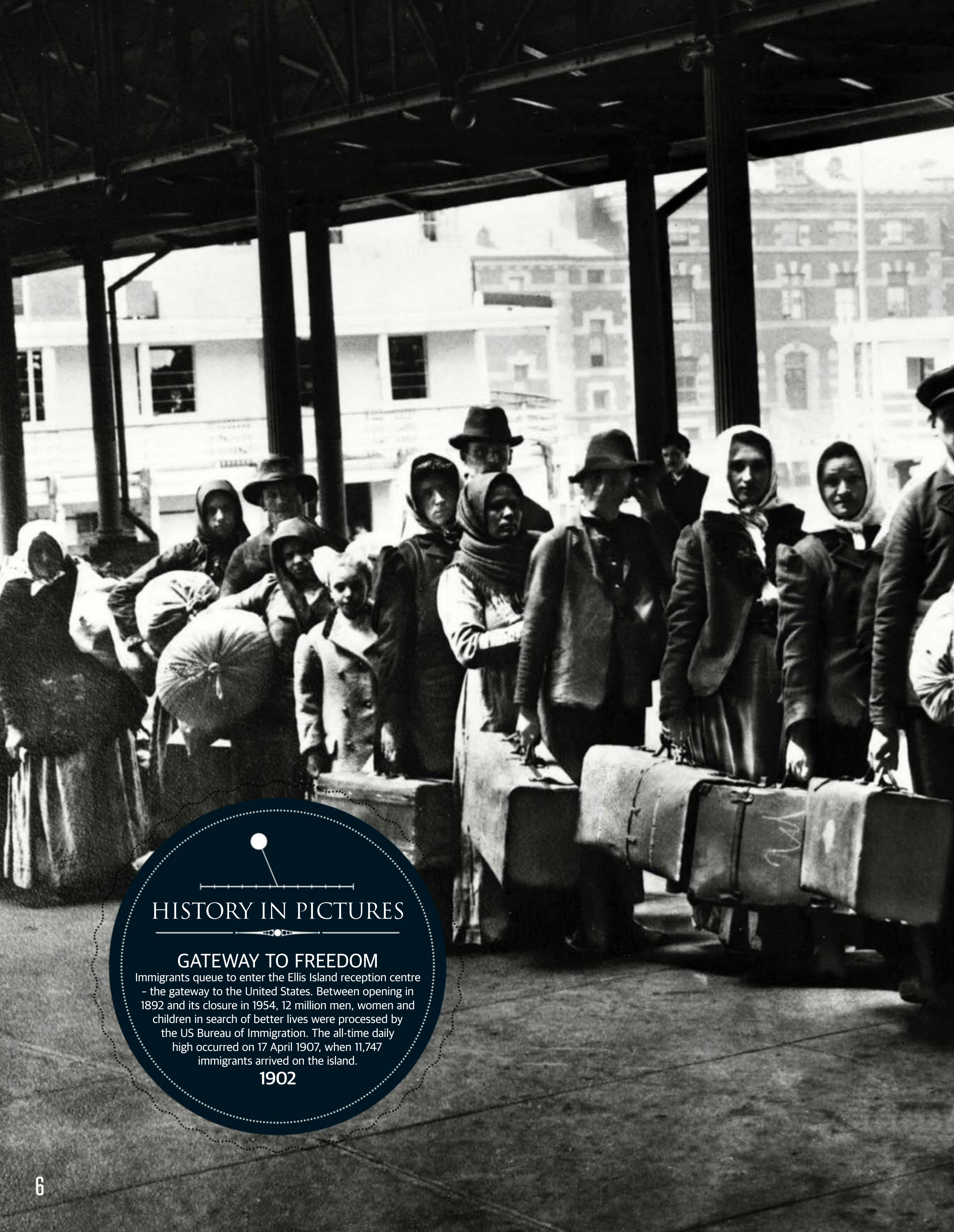


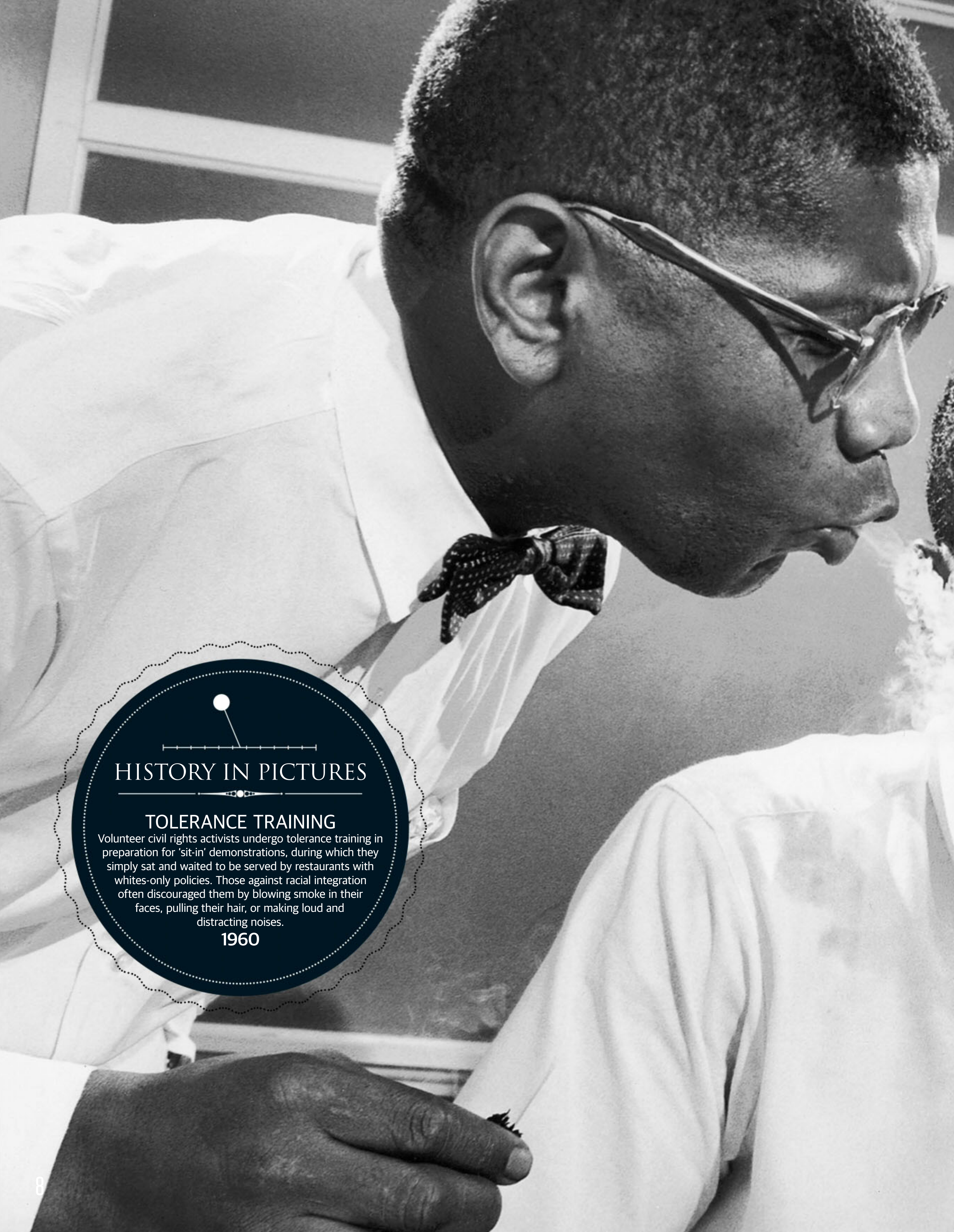
HISTORY IN PICTURES

GATEWAY TO FREEDOM

Immigrants queue to enter the Ellis Island reception centre – the gateway to the United States. Between opening in 1892 and its closure in 1954, 12 million men, women and children in search of better lives were processed by the US Bureau of Immigration. The all-time daily high occurred on 17 April 1907, when 11,747 immigrants arrived on the island.

1902

© Rex Features



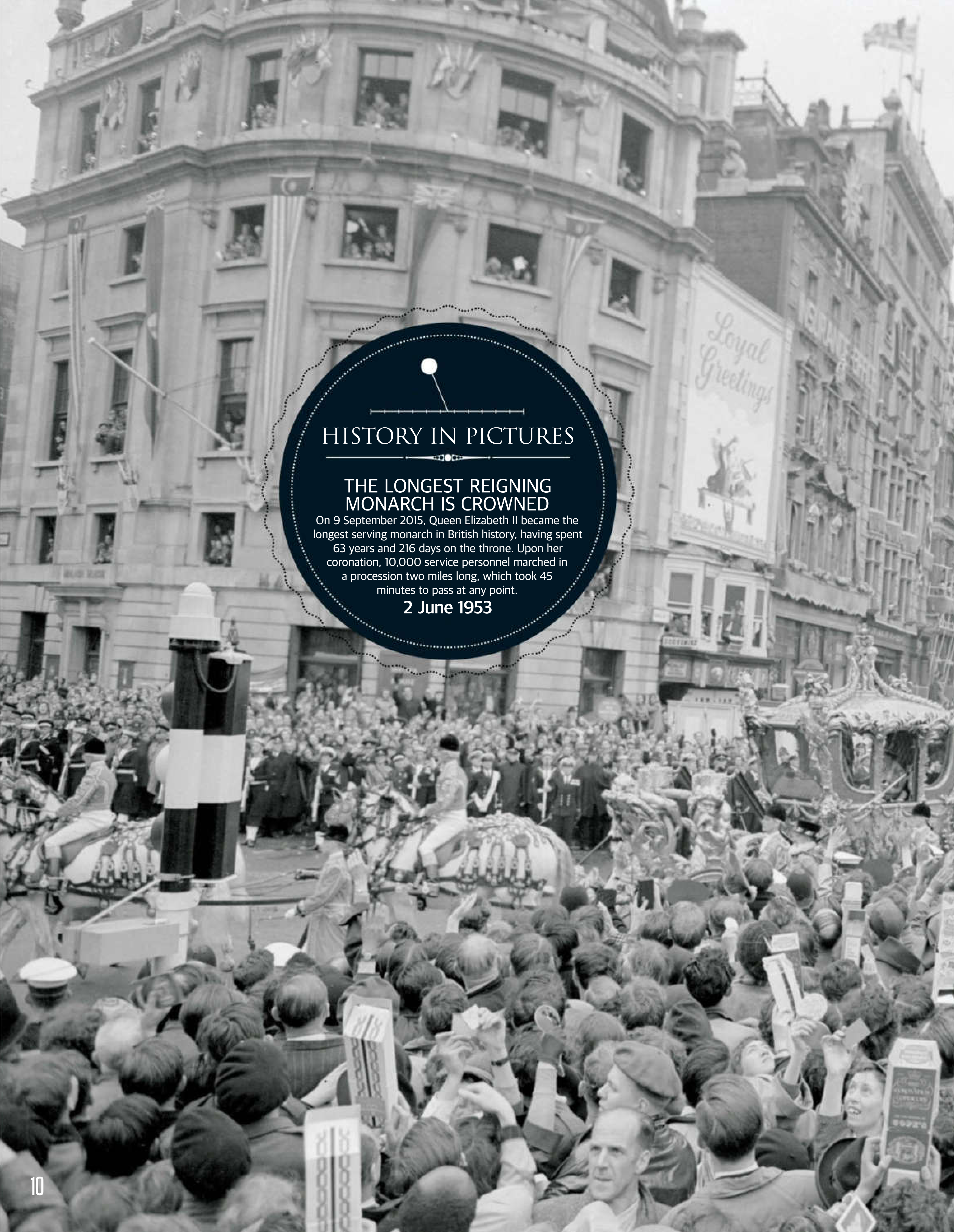
HISTORY IN PICTURES

TOLERANCE TRAINING

Volunteer civil rights activists undergo tolerance training in preparation for 'sit-in' demonstrations, during which they simply sat and waited to be served by restaurants with whites-only policies. Those against racial integration often discouraged them by blowing smoke in their faces, pulling their hair, or making loud and distracting noises.

1960

© Getty Images



HISTORY IN PICTURES

THE LONGEST REIGNING MONARCH IS CROWNED

On 9 September 2015, Queen Elizabeth II became the longest serving monarch in British history, having spent 63 years and 216 days on the throne. Upon her coronation, 10,000 service personnel marched in a procession two miles long, which took 45 minutes to pass at any point.

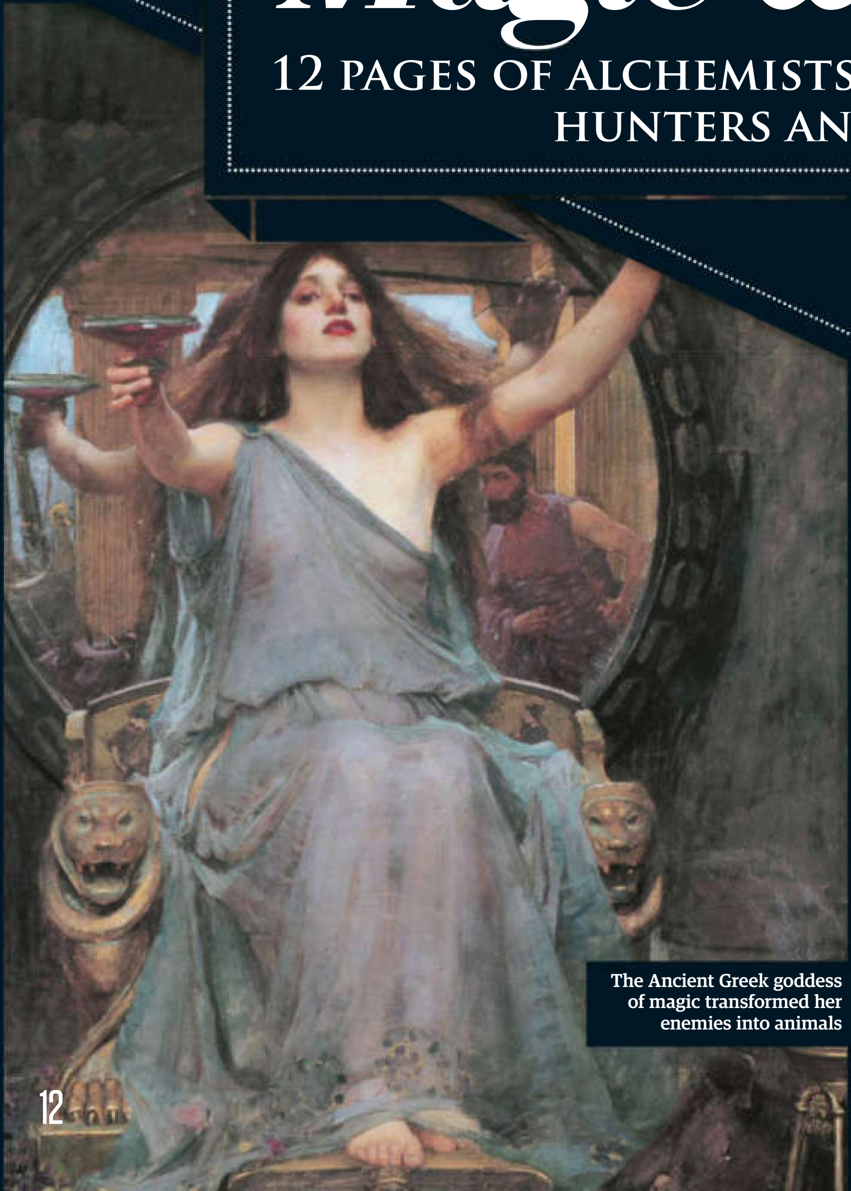
2 June 1953

© Alamy

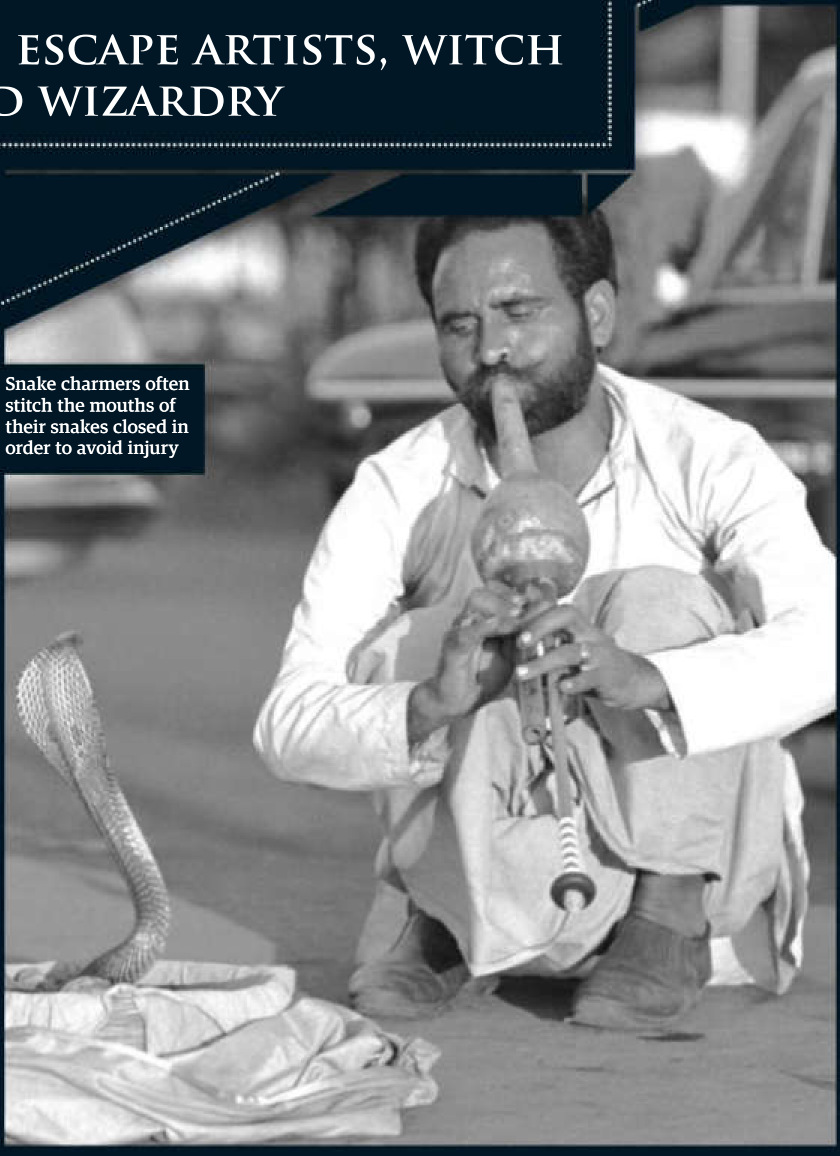
In Voodoo culture, an empty coffin is considered a gateway between life and death

Magic & Illusion

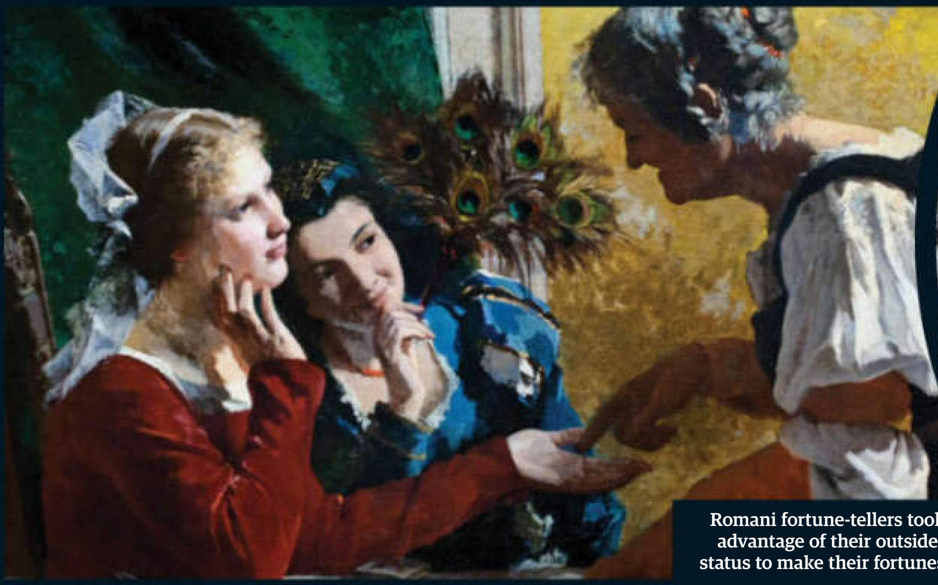
12 PAGES OF ALCHEMISTS, ESCAPE ARTISTS, WITCH HUNTERS AND WIZARDRY



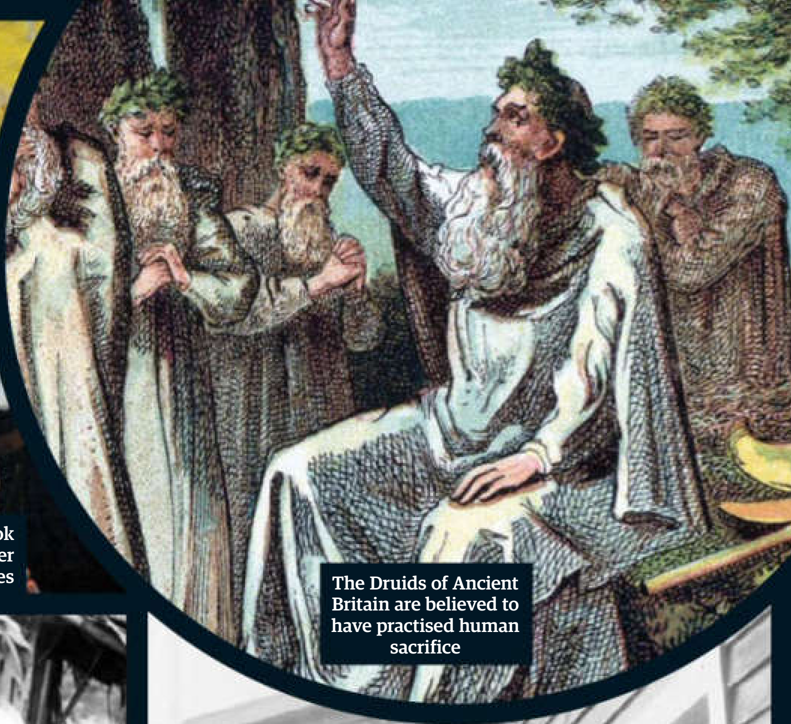
The Ancient Greek goddess of magic transformed her enemies into animals



Snake charmers often stitch the mouths of their snakes closed in order to avoid injury



Romani fortune-tellers took advantage of their outsider status to make their fortunes



The Druids of Ancient Britain are believed to have practised human sacrifice

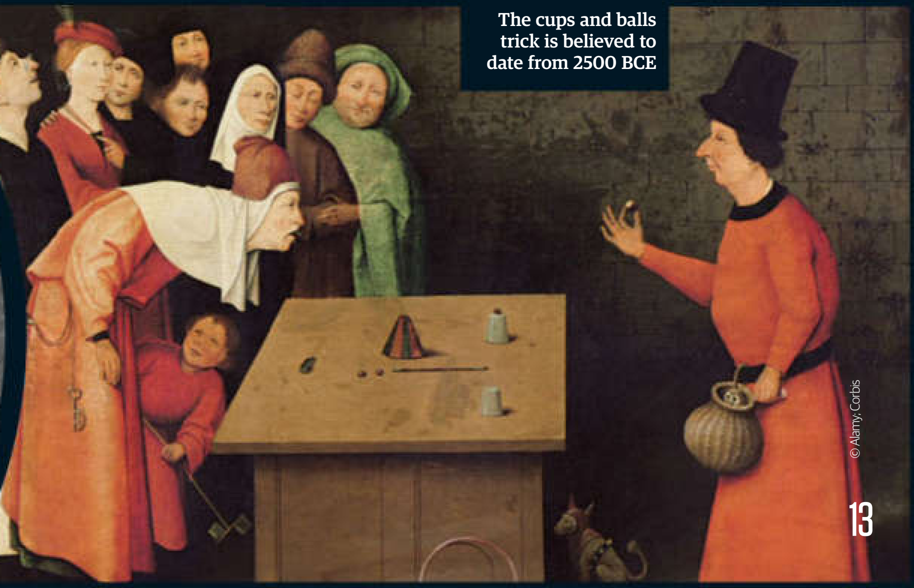
Shamans are believed to be able to communicate with the dead

"Working To Beat The Dev
kimo Medicine Man. Alaska,

An Inuit medicine man exorcises evil spirits from a sick boy

Alchemists of the Middle Ages searched for the elixir of life

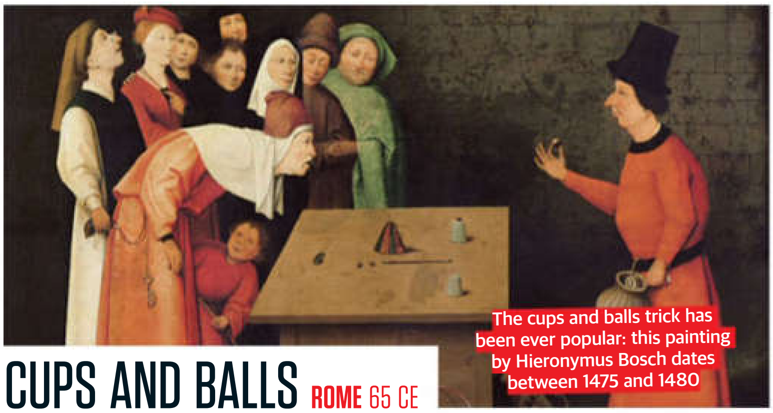
Houdini risked his life to perform his death-defying escape acts



The cups and balls trick is believed to date from 2500 BCE

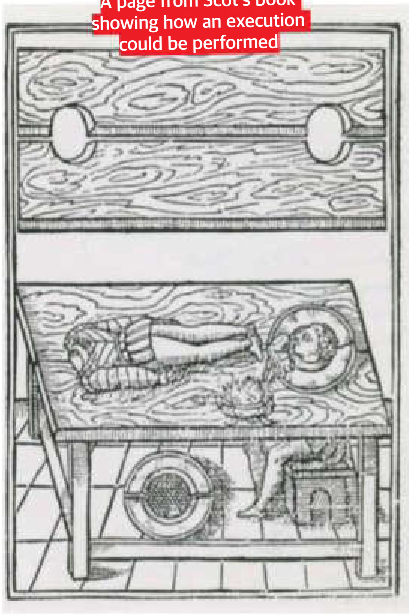
© Alamy, Corbis

Magic across history


The cups and balls trick has been ever popular: this painting by Hieronymus Bosch dates between 1475 and 1480

CUPS AND BALLS ROME 65 CE

Roman street magicians frequently performed the cups and balls routine. Although it was described by philosopher and dramatist Seneca the Younger in 65 CE, there are suggestions that it may have dated back to Ancient Egypt (hieroglyphs show men with what appear to be magic cups). The trick requires great sleight of hand in order to make the balls vanish, travel and reappear as the cups are placed over the top of them. The Romans used small vinegar cups called acetabulum, so the performers became known as the acetabularii.


A page from Scot's book showing how an execution could be performed

Practical magic book written

ENGLAND 1584

Reginald Scot did much to herald a new, more acceptable era of magic with his book *A Discoverie Of Witchcraft*, even though it wasn't his actual aim. First published in London, the book attempted to disprove the existence of witches and expose the methods behind their supposed black magic. Scot had become increasingly concerned about women being accused of witchcraft, a charge that typically resulted in the death penalty. Its publication angered witchcraft believers including King James IV of Scotland, but it was well received in Europe, where it was eventually translated into other languages.

Magic timeline

Magic as a form of entertainment emerges
Conjuring is first mentioned in an Ancient Egyptian text called the *Westcar Papyrus*, referring to a performance by magician Dedi about 800 years earlier.
1600-1800BCE

What's the magic word?
Abracadabra, the famous magic word, is described as forming part of an amulet designed to 'cure' malaria sufferers.
3rd century

Merlin emerges in a historical book
Geoffrey of Monmouth writes *Historia Regum Britanniae* and introduces a mythical yet influential magician called Merlin. **1135**

More tricks revealed
Several books are published including *The Art Of Conjuring* in 1614 and the 1658 English version of John Baptista Porta's 1558 Italian book *Natural Magick*.
1614

Porta's work laid down some principles useful to future magicians

The father of modern magic thrives
Jean Eugène Robert-Houdin, the father of modern magic, opens an elegant theatre in Paris. His two-person mind-reading act, Second Sight, is later acclaimed.
3 July 1845

Publication of *Modern Magic* books
The first of four books by Professor Louis Hoffmann, *Modern Magic* becomes the first written explanation of the delights and secrets of performance magic.
1876

1800 BCE | 0 | 200 | 400 | 1000 | 1500 | 1600 | 1700 | 1800

The Great Power of God
Simon Magus, or Simon the Sorcerer, announces himself as the Great Power of God. The Bible says he "amazed all the people of Samaria."
40 CE

St Peter confronts Simon Magus before Nero

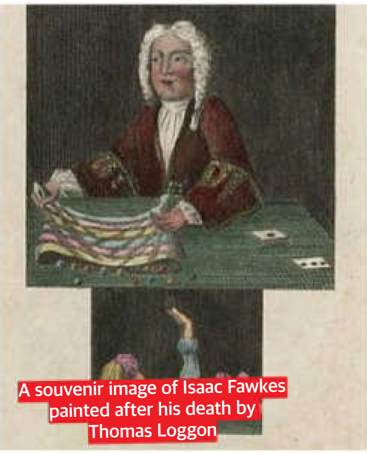
Magic held back by devilish association
Magicians risk being accused of dabbling in the occult and witchcraft.
400-1100

Attempts to popularise performance magic
Frenchman Jean Prévost writes *La Premiere Partie Des Subtiles Et Plaisantes Inventions*, which reveals a good number of magic tricks. **1584**

Mechanical magic rises to the fore
Joseph Pinetti instigates a move from sleight of hand to mechanical magic, amazing audiences with his growing orange tree and ability to chop the heads off birds by snipping their shadows.
1780s

Props became more elaborate as mechanical magic amazed audiences

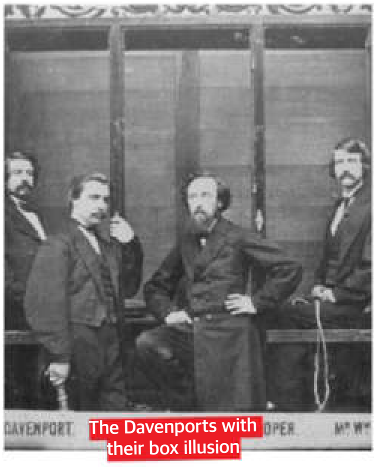
Putting a ghost on stage
Scientist John Henry Pepper puts angled glass in front of a stage, reflecting a hidden actor. It results in a ghostly illusion.
1862


A souvenir image of Isaac Fawkes painted after his death by Thomas Loggon

First professional magicians

ENGLAND 1720S

As magic shows became an accepted form of entertainment by the travelling community, a growing number of magicians were turning professional. One of the earliest was conjurer and shameless self-promoter Isaac Fawkes. Dressed in a suit and vowing not to defraud, he performed at high-class venues including the Opera House. He amazed audiences with his seemingly empty Egg Bag, which could produce dozens of eggs.



The Davenports with their box illusion

Rise of spiritualism

USA 31 MARCH 1848

Spiritualism grew strong after Kate and Margaret Fox claimed to be able to communicate with the dead through rapping noises. In 1888, Margaret confessed that the noises were made by snapping their toes against the floor, but spiritualism took hold. In the 1850s, Ira and William Davenport would be tied up in a box containing musical instruments that supposedly played without being touched. The brothers were exposed as illusionists in the 1870s.

John Henry Pepper was also a scientist, writing several important science education books

MAGIC BY MIRRORS ENGLAND 1862

John Henry Pepper and Thomas Tobin devised a special cabinet that was three feet and six inches (1.07 metres) wide and six feet tall (1.83 metres). Sitting on four legs to raise it above the ground so allowing the audience to see beneath it, the cabinet - called Proteus - was empty except for a pillar positioned in the centre with a lamp on top. It was possible to make people appear and disappear within the box thanks to hinged mirrors at a 45-degree angle that reflected the internal side walls. The pillar created a 'safe zone' where the magician could stand and avoid reflection. It was the first all-mirror trick.

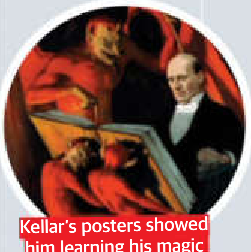
A bust of David Devant resides in the Magic Circle's HQ

Magic Circle formed in London

ENGLAND 1905

Magicians and illusionists wanted a way to share ideas in secret, and so the Magic Circle was formed by 23 amateur and professional musicians. They appointed David Devant as their first president and held their initial meeting at The Green Mann pub in Soho, London, before moving to a room above the stage in St George's Hall in Langham Palace. In 1906, a magazine called *The Magic Circular* began publishing, and in 1991, women members were admitted. Joining is notoriously difficult, and successful members undertake a vow of secrecy.

Advertising posters and the whispering imps
Harry Kellar's posters begin picturing the magician with devils and imps, whispering secrets from the underworld.
1894


Kellar's posters showed him learning his magic from the imps

Sawing a woman in half
Robert-Houdin claimed that magician Torrini had cut a woman in half in 1809, but the first public performance is by PT Selbit in London. **1921**

Modern Coin Magic
JB Bobo explains 116 coin sleights and 236 coin tricks performed by some of the greatest magicians.
1952

Paul Daniels is first recipient of The Maskelyne
British TV magician Paul Daniels is recognised for services to British magic by the Magic Circle in 1988. His BBC show runs from 1979 to 1994.
1988

Blockbuster illusionist shows break records
Illusionist David Copperfield's *Dreams And Nightmares* stage show achieves the record for the most Broadway tickets sold in a week.
1996

Criss Angel named Magician of the Century
Having amazed audiences by spending 24 hours underwater in a torture cell in 2002, Criss Angel dominates TV airtime and is widely acclaimed.
2010

1900 1920 1940 1960 1980 2000 2010 2015

Society of American Magicians is founded
The world's first magic society is created at Martinka & Company, builder of magic illusions and props for the most famous magicians of the day. **1902**

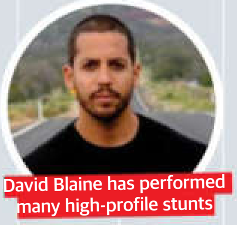
Changing the perception of magic
David Devant and Nevil Maskelyne want to encourage people to see magic as art and write *Our Magic*, which stresses performance over tricks and dodges.
1911

First magician appears on TV
The BBC seeks performers for its test broadcasts and hires magician Fred Culpitt.
1936

Reviving the glory days
Doug Henning's *The Magic Show* aims to cast magic back into the spotlight following its waning popularity.
1974

Magician and actor Doug Henning

Street magic becomes popular again
David Blaine's *Street Magic* TV special claims to take "magic back to the place it used to be 100 years ago", although Jeff Sheridan was performing street magic in New York in 1977.
1997


David Blaine has performed many high-profile stunts

When Houdini fired a pistol, the elephant disappeared

Making an elephant disappear

USA 7 JANUARY 1918

There was an appetite in the early 20th century to think big. So Harry Houdini sought to make an elephant called Jennie disappear. She entered a cabinet at the vast 5,697-seater Hippodrome, New York, and was shut away with curtains and doors. The cabinet turned and the curtain opened. The elephant had gone. Houdini had convinced the audience that the cabinet was smaller than it was and, with the elephant hiding to one side, circular light from the back of the cabinet flooded in, completing the illusion of emptiness.

David Copperfield floats beside a motorcycle

Behind the scenes – the prop makers

USA 1960S

Props and equipment are important aspects of a magician's show. Around the turn of the 20th century, they tended to be big and bold, but in the 1960s, simplicity was key, primarily because magic's popularity was waning and larger props were expensive. Robert Harbin in the UK and Alan Wakeling in the USA created tricks that didn't need lights, curtains or a stage. John Gaughan has become highly successful, producing 'big magic' props for David Blaine, Criss Angel and many others. He devised David Copperfield's flying illusion.

© Corbis

INSIDE HISTORY

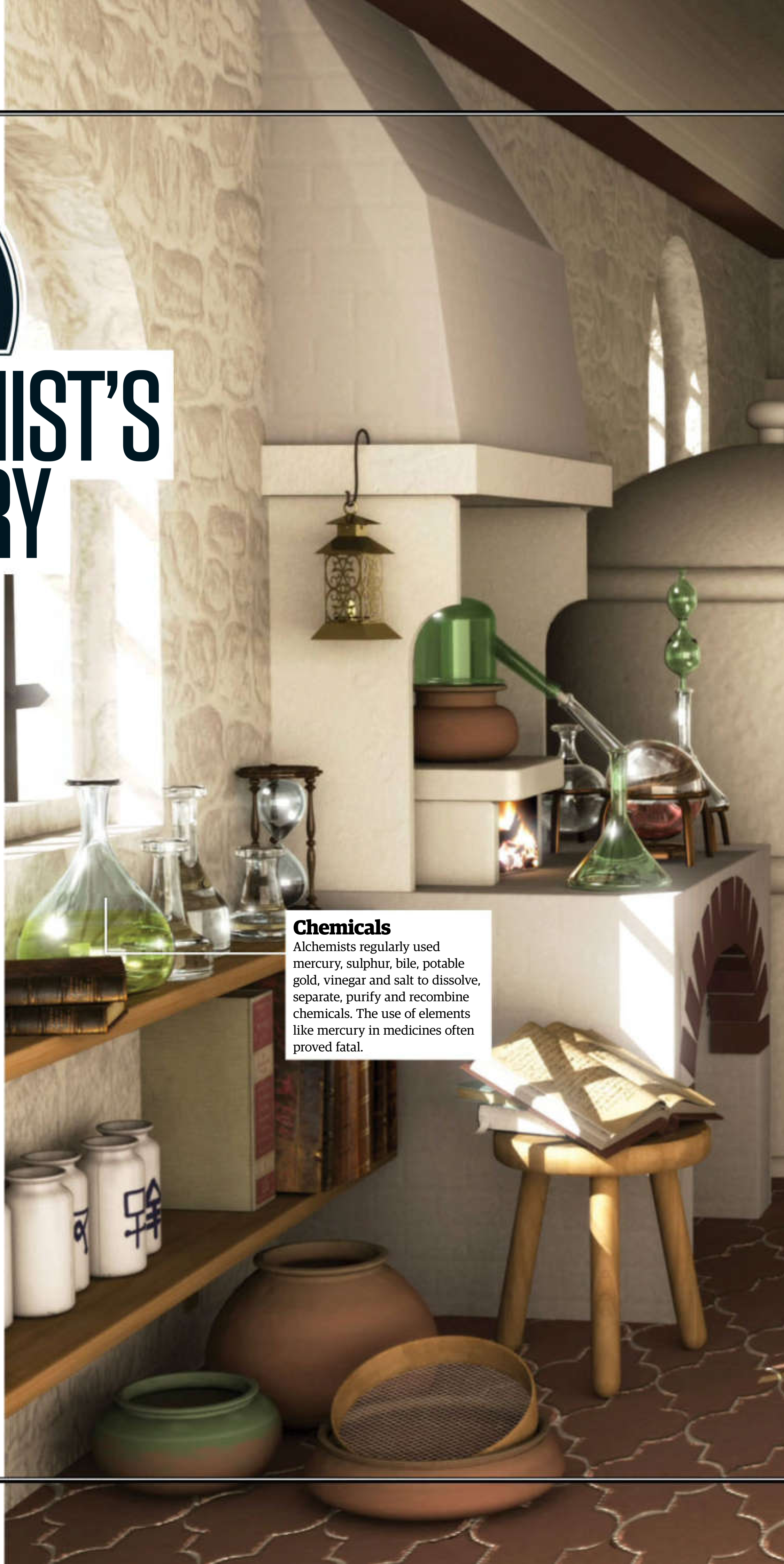
AN ALCHEMIST'S LABORATORY

A SANCTUARY FOR SEEKERS OF THE PHILOSOPHER'S STONE, 16TH-17TH CENTURY, EUROPE

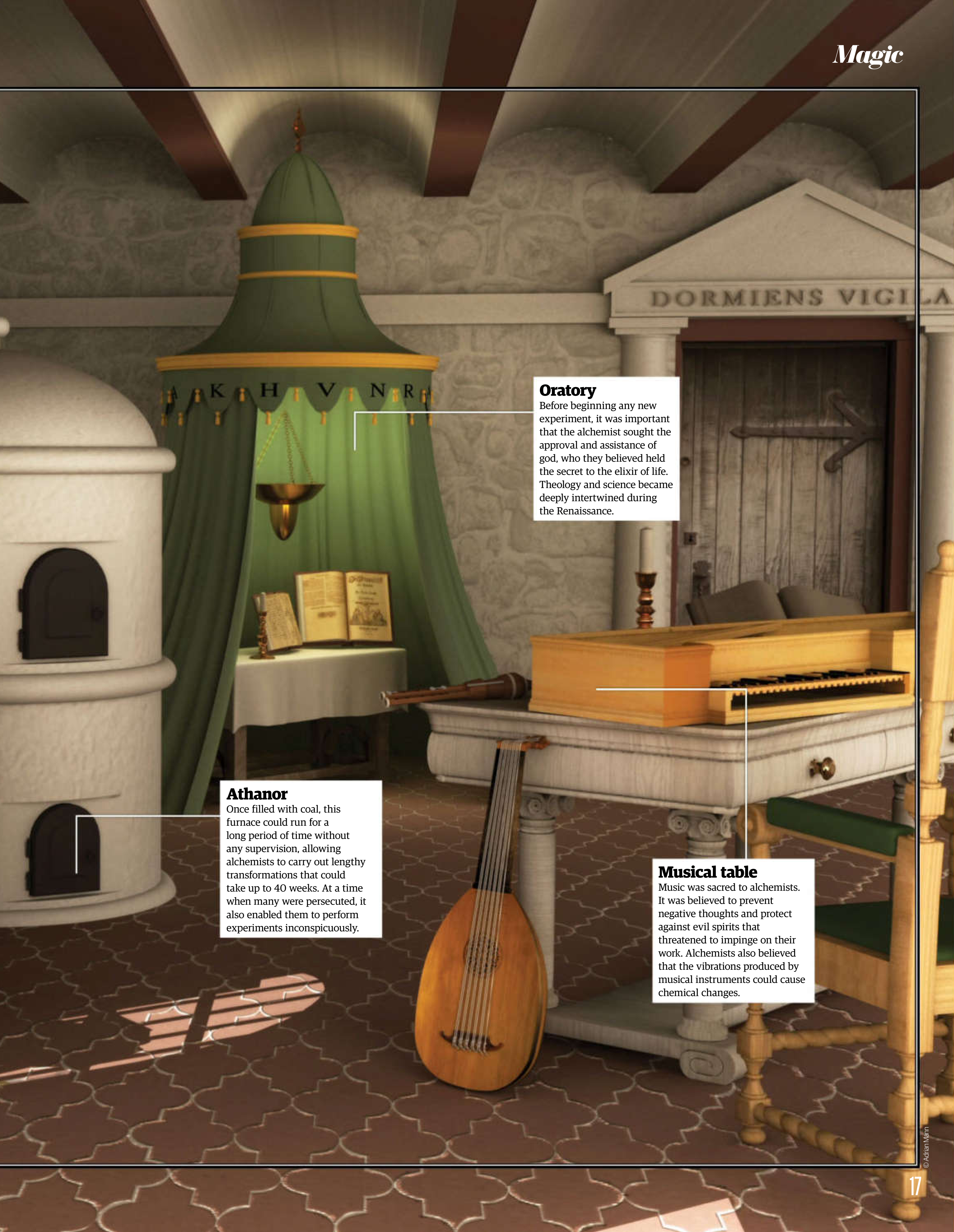
Few scientific disciplines defined the complexity of the Renaissance as much as alchemy, an area where philosophy, science, theology and magic came together. The tradition dates back to Hellenistic Egypt, where ancient alchemists attempted to create artificial gemstones and turn base metals into gold and silver. By the Middle Ages, the practice had spread to Europe, where theologians encouraged its reconciliation with Christianity. It was believed that minerals and other substances could affect the human body – if the secret of purifying gold could be learned, then the technique could be used to purify the soul and gain entry to Heaven.

With the birth of the Renaissance, alchemy became an entrepreneurial pursuit, with many receiving large payouts from the nobility for their medical services, the production of precious metals, and, of course, the 'elixir of life'. Fraudsters began to cash in on the craze, using magicians' tricks and misdirection to 'create' gold in order to attract sponsorship and court favour. Those who were exposed were imprisoned, tortured or executed, and some were punished for witchcraft and devil worshipping in particularly gruesome ways.

But it wasn't just the alchemists themselves who suffered from their science. Customers seeking cures for their ailments were often treated with metals like mercury and lead, with fatal outcomes.



Chemicals
Alchemists regularly used mercury, sulphur, bile, potable gold, vinegar and salt to dissolve, separate, purify and recombine chemicals. The use of elements like mercury in medicines often proved fatal.



Oratory

Before beginning any new experiment, it was important that the alchemist sought the approval and assistance of god, who they believed held the secret to the elixir of life. Theology and science became deeply intertwined during the Renaissance.

Athanor

Once filled with coal, this furnace could run for a long period of time without any supervision, allowing alchemists to carry out lengthy transformations that could take up to 40 weeks. At a time when many were persecuted, it also enabled them to perform experiments inconspicuously.

Musical table

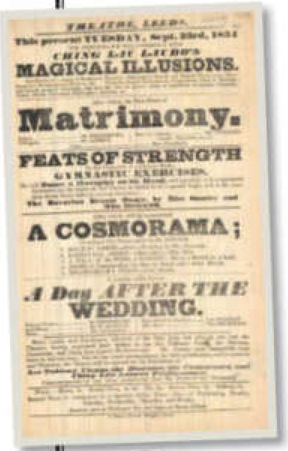
Music was sacred to alchemists. It was believed to prevent negative thoughts and protect against evil spirits that threatened to impinge on their work. Alchemists also believed that the vibrations produced by musical instruments could cause chemical changes.

© Adrian Mann

Hall of Fame

MASTERS OF DECEPTION

The mysterious legendary heroes who invented the impossible and pulled off amazing feats some believed could be the stuff of witchcraft



MAGICAL ILLUSIONS.

Matrimony.

FEATS OF STRENGTH

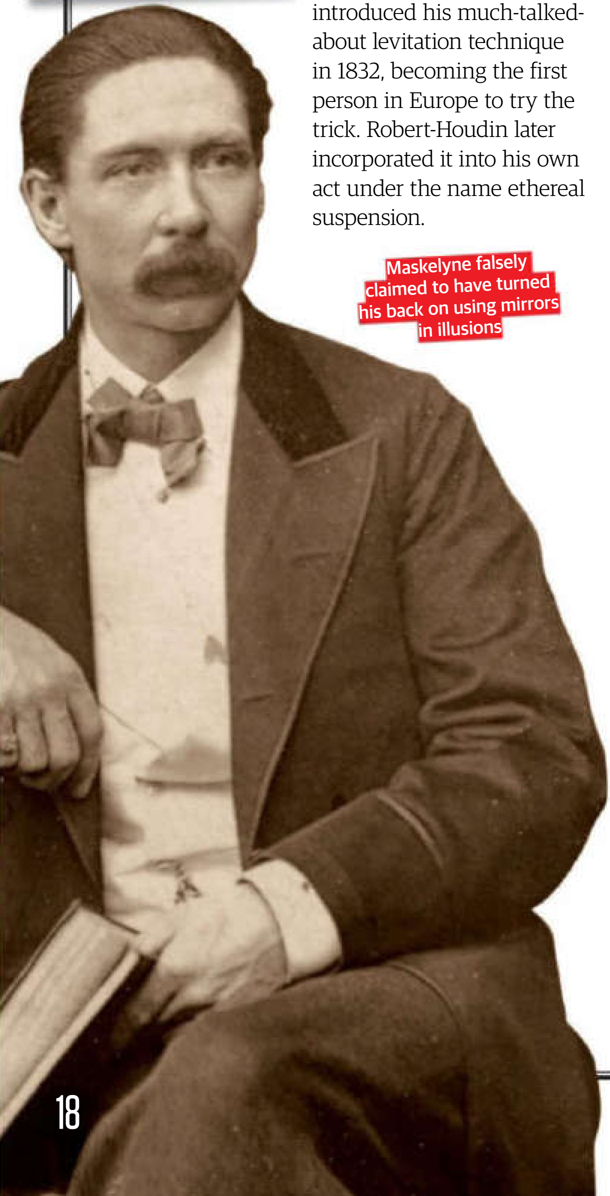
A COSMORAMA;

A Day AFTER THE WEDDING.

CHING LAU LAURO

ENGLISH 1806-40

Professor Ching, as he was also known, was originally a juggler who later turned his hand to magic. Performing in a Chinese costume even though he was actually Cornish (his real name is unknown), he became famous in England between 1828 and 1839. He introduced his much-talked-about levitation technique in 1832, becoming the first person in Europe to try the trick. Robert-Houdin later incorporated it into his own act under the name ethereal suspension.



Maskelyne falsely claimed to have turned his back on using mirrors in illusions

JEAN EUGÈNE ROBERT-HOUDIN

FRENCH 1805-71

Known as the 'Father of Modern Magic', Robert-Houdin portrayed magicians as artists, taking shows off the streets and on to the stage. Aged 39, he opened a theatre in Paris in 1845 and performed magnificent shows called 'Soirées Fantastiques' while wearing a respectable top hat and tails. His most famous trick was The Marvellous Orange Tree, in which a woman's ring was wrapped in a handkerchief that found its way inside an egg, a lemon and an orange. The orange was turned to dust and gathered into a magical elixir that was then set on fire beneath a bare orange tree. The smoke caused the flowers and fruit to grow and the ring was located within one of the oranges.

DAVID COPPERFIELD

AMERICAN 1956-PRESENT

Born David Seth Kotkin, Copperfield is the most financially successful magician of all time, and he pulled off the largest illusion ever staged when he appeared to make the Statue of Liberty in New York disappear for a television special in 1983. His work has gained him global recognition and his interest in the history of magic is well known: he has more than 150,000 props, books, posters and other items, half of which are on display at the International Museum and Library of the Conjuring Arts in Nevada, USA.

Copperfield was admitted to the Society of American Magicians aged 12

Copperfield owns Houdini's Water Torture Cabinet

JOHN NEVIL MASKELYNE

ENGLISH 1839-1917

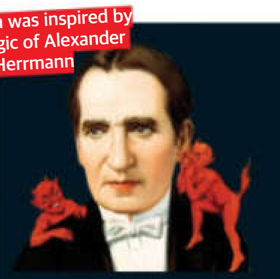
A long-standing sceptic of the many spiritualists who plied their trade in Victorian England, Maskelyne helped expose the supposed supernatural illusions performed by Ira and William Davenport as fraudulent. Together with cabinet-maker George A Cooke, he literally aped their séances by escaping from a trunk in costume - Cooke as a gorilla. But his forte was as an inventor. He came up with the pay toilet, a ribbon-less typewriter and, with John Clarke, a mechanical puppet called Psycho that could play card hands. The latter was debuted at the Egyptian Hall - 'England's Home of Mystery' - and is now in the Museum of London.

Devant co-wrote an important book, *Our Magic*, with Maskelyne

JOSEPH BUATIER DEKOLTA

FRENCH 1845-1903

DeKolta appeared rather unkempt when compared to some of the other magicians that would amaze audiences during the Golden Age of Magic, but his tricks were so stunning that they continue to be used to this day. The Vanishing Birdcage became a particular favourite. It involved a canary in a small cage that, with a flick of the wrist, could disappear into thin air. He went one better in 1886 with the DeKolta Chair, which enabled him to make a woman and the chair disappear with the swift removal of a large silk cloth.



Thurston was inspired by the magic of Alexander Herrmann

HOWARD THURSTON

AMERICAN 1869-1936

In his youth, Thurston had a reputation as a con man, using his clear and soothing voice to distract people from his true intentions, but this stood him in good stead for a long career as one of the USA's most popular magicians. Originally billed as 'The King of Cards', as he flipped between making them disappear, having them rise magically from a deck or throwing them with great precision and speed, he went on to produce a lavish show that toured the world. Fast-paced and opulent, it needed eight train cars for the various props - including a lion, which he could make appear as if from nowhere.

DAVID DEVANT

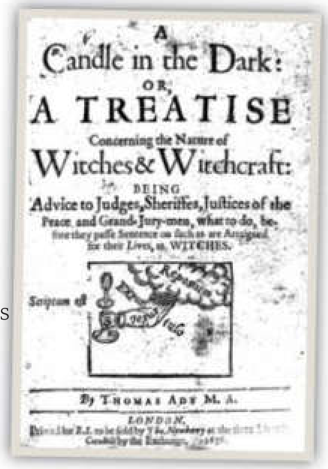
ENGLISH 1868-1941

Having become interested in magic at the age of ten, Devant became a natural magician with a witty patter that impressed John Nevil Maskelyne. He secured a slot at the Egyptian Hall in London aged 25, and was on the bill three times for Royal Command Performances (and the only magician to appear at its debut in 1912). He also partnered with Maskelyne in 1905. His key trick was The Obliging Tea Kettle, which allowed any sort of beverage to be poured and tasted. Devant became the first president of the Magic Circle but was expelled twice for exposing secrets.

THOMAS ADY

ENGLISH 1600S

Author and physician Thomas Ady was among a number of 17th-century writers seeking to expose the methods of magic as a way of disproving witchcraft. His book, *Candle In The Dark*, contains one of the very earliest mentions of the phrase "hocus pocus", which has come to be intrinsically linked with magic. Still, it would be many years before magic was fully accepted as a form of entertainment: Robert-Houdin had to reveal his tricks to the authorities in the 19th century to avoid accusations of witchcraft.



A
Candle in the Dark:
OR,
A TREATISE
Concerning the Nature of
Witches & Witchcraft:
BEING
Advice to Judges, Sheriffes, Juſtices of the
Peace, and Grand-Jury-men, what to do, be-
fore they paſs Sentence on ſuch as are Arraigned
for their Lives, as WITCHES.

By THOMAS ADY M. A.

LONDON,

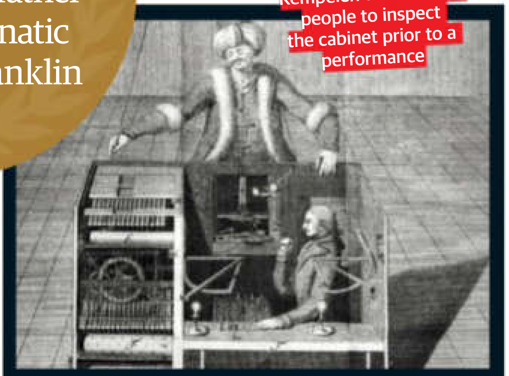
> "I wouldn't deceive you for the world."
>
> ***Howard Thurston***

HARRY HOUDINI

HUNGARIAN 1874-1926

Houdini was not known to be a great magician but he was a legendary escape artist who was seemingly able to wriggle out of any straightjacket and box on land or in water. Born Erich Weisz, he renamed himself Harry Houdini as an homage to Robert-Houdin. His greatest invention was the Water Torture Cell, which he first performed in September 1912. It had taken him three years to perfect and involved him being locked in stocks and lowered head first into a glass cabinet filled with water. He would escape the contraption in minutes, gasping for breath.

The Mechanical Turk defeated US founding father and chess fanatic Benjamin Franklin



Kempelen would allow people to inspect the cabinet prior to a performance

WOLFGANG VON KEMPELEN

HUNGARIAN 1734-1804

Baron Wolfgang von Kempelen devised The Mechanical Turk. Built in 1769 and comprising the top half of a wooden Turkish man's body placed above a sizeable box, it was able to play chess against human opponents. The nobleman toured it across Europe, amazing crowds who believed the device was not only analysing how a human was playing, but devising its own strategies too. Its secret? There was someone cleverly hidden inside the cabinet controlling all the moves.

Houdini formed a film company, Houdini Picture Corporation, in 1921

Houdini later wrote articles in *The Conjurer's Magazine* attacking Robert-Houdin

© Alamy, Rex Features

5 myths busted

DRUIDS

LEGENDARY RELIGIOUS FIGURES CLOAKED IN INTRIGUE AND MYSTERY,

GAUL, BRITAIN, IRELAND, IRON AGE

01 ALL DRUIDS WERE MALE

Not only did Druids worship female gods, but there were also many female Druids. As Druids were regarded highly in society, women Druids similarly benefited. Unusually for the period, they were considered virtually equal to their male counterparts, could take part in wars and even had the power to divorce their husbands.

DRUIDS

Nationality: Celtic

CA 200 BCE - 100 CE

Brief Bio

The Druids are among the most mysterious groups of people in history. Very little is known of their practices, habits and roles as they left no written account of themselves. It is because of this lack of information that so much mysticism surrounds them. What we do know is that Druids were members of the educated class, and played a prominent role in Celtic culture, as well as religion.

02 They committed human sacrifice

This is one of the most debated topics concerning the Druids. Several sources report that Druids ritually sacrificed humans, but these were written by people like Julius Caesar, who had reason to paint the Celts in a barbaric way. There is no concrete evidence that Druids engaged in human sacrifice, and if they did it was likely not commonplace.

03 They were all priests

Although connecting the people to the gods was an important part of a Druid's role, they also filled a lot of other positions within society. They were teachers, scientists and philosophers, among other things. Druids held a great amount of influence in the Celtic world and even had the power to banish people from society.

04 They all wore white robes

There has not been a discovery that can be undoubtedly linked to the Druids, so we have no solid proof of what they wore. The idea that they wore white robes is based on a mistranslation, and in accordance to the laws regarding clothes at the time, Druids could wear up to six colours. There is also no evidence that these clothes were 'robes' at all.

05 They were monotheistic

This myth likely emerged due to the practices of some modern-day Druids, who have merged Druidism with their own Christian beliefs. Historically, Druids worshipped a large number of gods and goddesses for different purposes, like the goddess of summer and god of the sea, rather like the Ancient Roman and Greek religions.

Studying the Battle of Britain? We have the answers

The new Wing visitor centre at the National Memorial to the Few at Capel-le-Ferne in Kent brings to life the Battle of Britain and the events of 1940.

Set on the top of the famous White Cliffs, the new centre features an interactive, high-tech Scramble Experience that will inspire and excite young people as they learn about the bravery of 'the Few'.

Alongside the experience is a purpose-built learning area, the Geoffrey Page Centre, which is ideal for follow up work and study. The Memorial, the Christopher Foxley-Norris Memorial Wall and a replica Spitfire and Hurricane will add further interest to the visit.

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Ring 01303 249292
or email manager@battleofbritainmemorial.org
for more information or to book.

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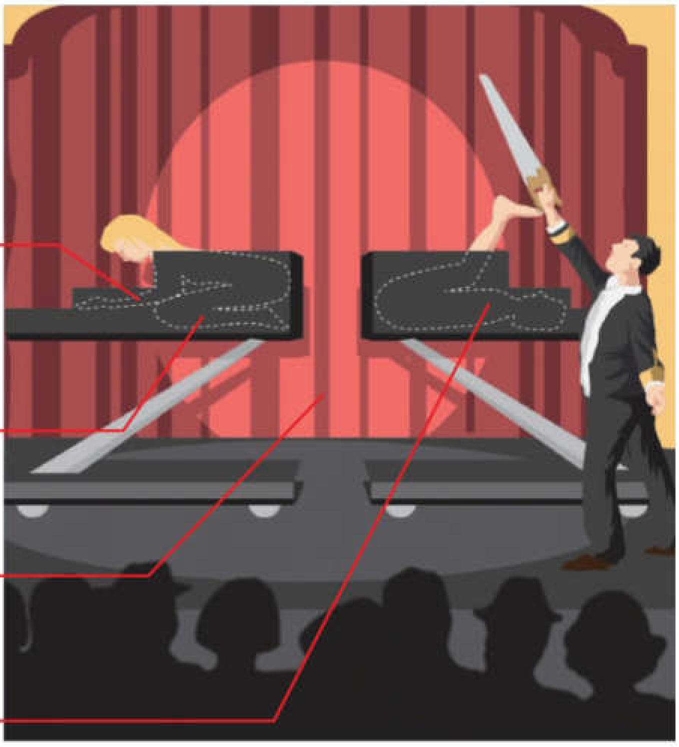
GUERNSEY POST

How to SAW A WOMAN IN HALF

THE OLDEST TRICK IN THE BOOK IS STILL ONE OF THE BEST UNITED STATES & EUROPE, 1920S

At the height of the live magic era, famous magicians toured the world, filling countless theatres with astonished audiences. Before the rise of filmmaking, it was these real-live shows occurring before people's very eyes that attracted the most attention. Wannabe magicians had to stand out from the crowd if they wanted any chance of becoming world famous. Just one amazing trick performed perfectly was all an illusionist needed to propel them into the big time. The trick of sawing a woman in half was first performed by PT Selbit in 1921. Within a year, it was one of the most popular tricks of the era, and a staple of any magician's show.

TRICKS OF THE TRADE



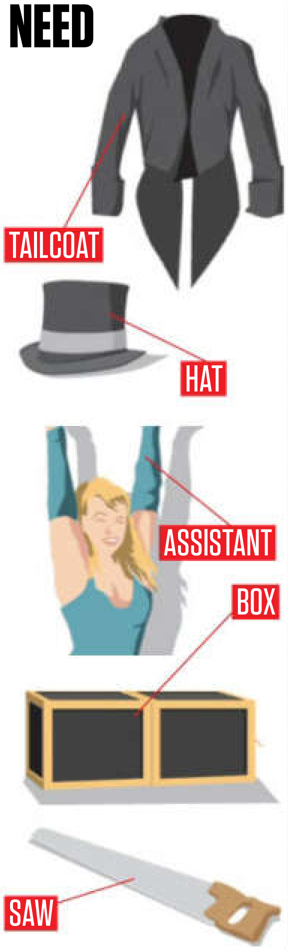
Assistant One
Not only does your assistant require great flexibility and even contortionist skills, she must be able to synchronise her movements with Assistant Two.

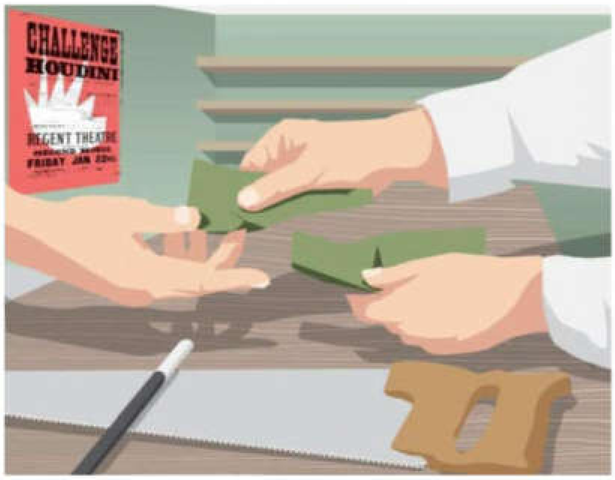
Box
Although the standard version of this trick involves two covered boxes and a platform, some alternative versions include see through boxes, or no boxes at all.

Saw
This can be a handsaw, buzz saw, a thin blade or even a fake saw. Some versions of this trick rely entirely on the saw not being real.

Assistant Two
This assistant must stay hidden for the duration of the act or the trick will be revealed. In other versions, this assistant is replaced by legs on stilts or robotic feet operated offstage.

WHAT YOU'LL NEED





01 Get the gear

The success of this trick relies on having the right props. When Horace Goldin perfected this act, he was wary about being copied, so took out a patent. However, similar versions are for sale, and you can buy a whole prop or just the plans. For this version, you'll need a prop with a fake platform beneath. This is where the secret second assistant will hide.

02 Set the scene

80 per cent of the success of a magic act relies not in the trick itself, but the showmanship of the magician. Those who can't create the right atmosphere are doomed to fail. Before the trick, take some time to set the scene: memorise a speech or even invite an audience member on stage to examine the equipment.

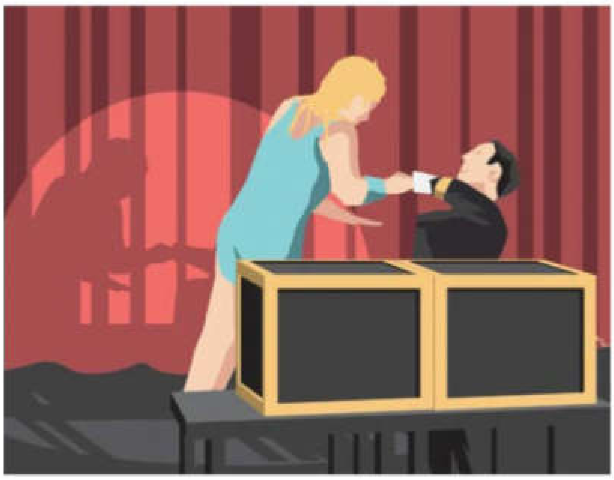
How not to… perform a magic trick

The most dangerous trick in the history of magic is the bullet catch, and it is believed that it has racked up more casualties and deaths than any other.

This trick involves a bullet supposedly being loaded into a gun then fired at the magician, who miraculously catches it in their hand or even their teeth. There are numerous reports of magicians being killed while performing this trick, but one in particular has become infamous.

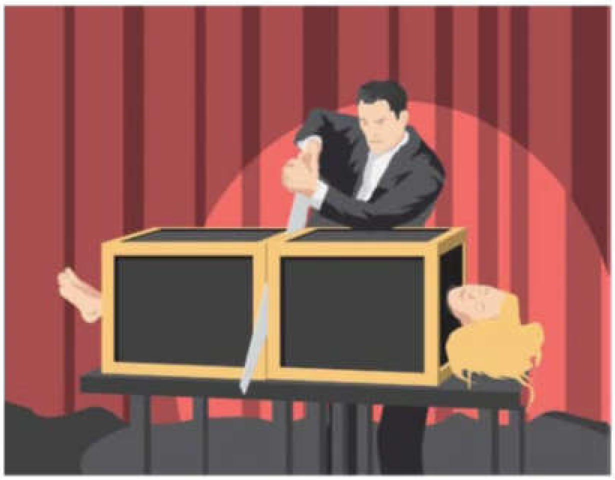
Chung Ling Soo was an American man who adopted the persona of a Chinese magician. He never broke character or spoke English on stage, even going as far as using as interpreter when being interviewed. When performing the bullet catch in London in 1918, the gun was not cleaned out properly and the bullet was launched into his chest.

For the first time ever, Ling Soo broke character, saying: "Oh my god, bring down the curtain. Something has happened." He died the next day. The bullet trick became so infamous that even Houdini was too afraid to attempt it.



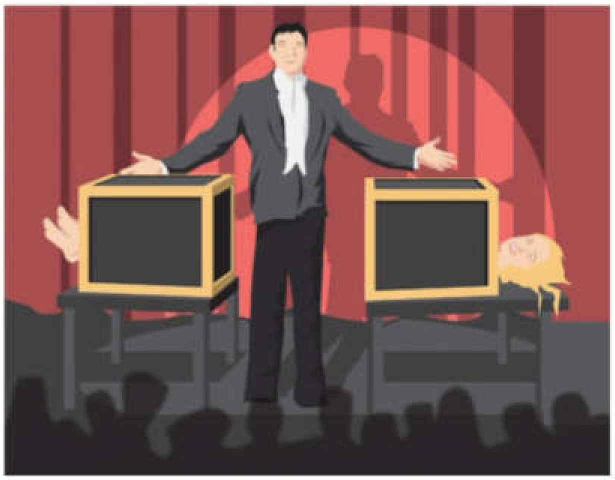
03 Begin the trick

Help your assistant into the box. Now make a show of it: rotate it and make sure at some point you nonchalantly conceal the end. During this moment the assistant will withdraw her feet and squeeze into the upper half. Then your second assistant, waiting in the platform, will push her feet through the holes while remaining hidden.



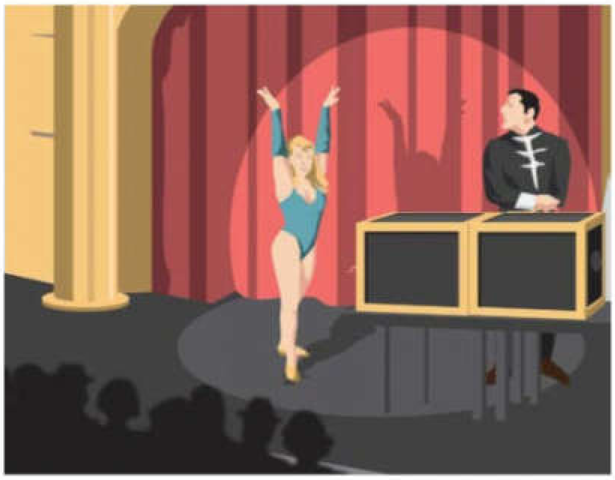
04 Saw her in half

With your two assistants confined to the compartments, the saw will pass harmlessly through. However, it's important to make a show of it. When you're ready, start to saw. You're supposedly sawing through bone, so make it convincing. How your assistant reacts will set the tone - she can give a cheeky smile and wave, or scream in pain.



05 Pull the two halves apart

This is the key moment of the trick - the reveal. Pull the halves apart to show there's nothing in between; you can even rotate the platform. The boxes need to stay on the platform so can't be pulled too far apart, but the sight of a woman supposedly cut in two should amaze. Don't linger - if the audience looks too long they might work out the trick.



06 Reform your assistant

Now it's time to push the two halves back together. You'll need to repeat the process like you did during the initial swap so the second assistant can remove her feet. The first assistant will then return her feet through the holes, and you can open the box. Help your assistant out and reveal her intact body. Take in the applause from your fans, you deserve it.

4 REVOLUTIONARY MAGICIANS

HARRY AUGUST JANSEN US, 1883-1955

Known by his stage name 'Dante', Jansen toured the world with his troupe of up to 40 performers and was hailed as the greatest magician in the world.

DOUG HENNING

CANADA, 1947-2000

Henning's popular TV shows moved magic away from the conventional dinner suits of the 1920s into something more casual, fun and trendy.

DERREN BROWN

UK, 1971-PRESENT

Brown's acclaimed shows focus on feats of mentalism by using techniques more associated with psychology and misdirection than classic illusionist magic.

DAVID BLAINE

US, 1973-PRESENT

Although his tricks were not new or revolutionary, Blaine was one of the first illusionists to bring magic to the streets, inspiring a generation of 'street magicians'.

© Ed Crooks

Day in the life

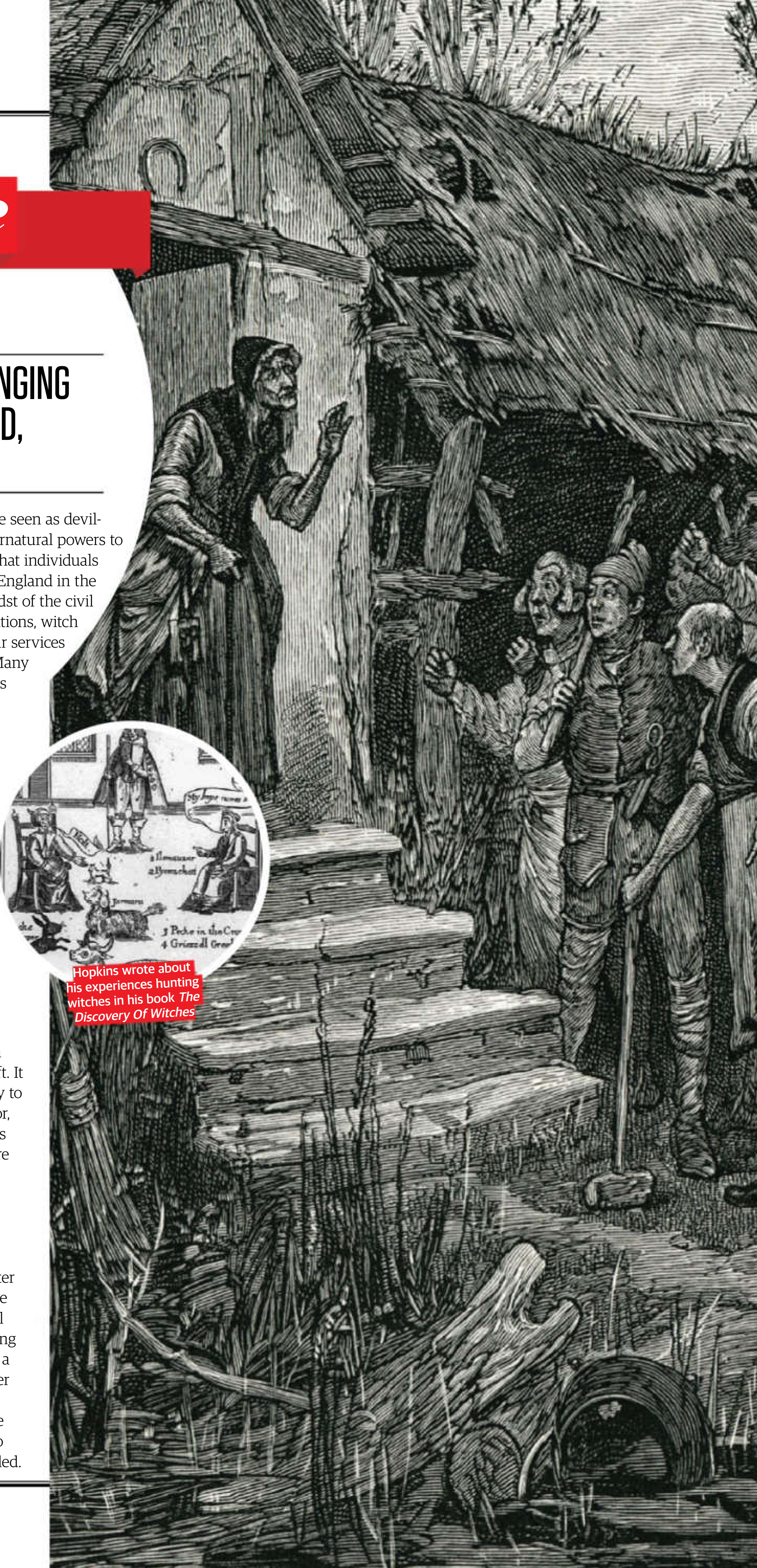
A WITCH HUNTER

PUNISHING EVILDOERS AND BRINGING FIERY JUSTICE ACROSS THE LAND, ENGLAND, 17TH CENTURY

In the 14th and 15th centuries, witches started to be seen as devil-worshippers, working with Satan and gaining supernatural powers to do his evil work. The fear of witches was so great that individuals were employed to identify and punish witches. In England in the 1600s, witch hunting reached its climax. In the midst of the civil war, with no officials to oversee witchcraft prosecutions, witch hunters were free to traverse the country, offer their services to terrified towns and reap the financial benefits. Many believed they were doing the lord's work, but others were willing to lie, cheat and sacrifice lives to achieve wealth and respect.

ARRIVE AT DESTINATION

Witch hunters quickly moved from one town to another once their business was complete. Matthew Hopkins, the most famous witch hunter in English history, offered his services across eastern England. Witch hunters were in great demand and town authorities would request their services, but often the hunter stopped at towns and villages along the way.



Hopkins wrote about his experiences hunting witches in his book *The Discovery Of Witches*

ACCUSE SOMEONE

The way most witch hunters operated was to investigate the gossip circulating around a town and turn it into a formal accusation of witchcraft. It is of no coincidence that the accused were likely to be those on the edges of society. Most were poor, disfigured or old, and female. This wasn't always the case - high-ranking members of society were occasionally charged and men were equally as likely to be accused in some parts of the world.

IMPRISON THE WITCH

Once they identified the 'culprit', the witch hunter would arrest the person and imprison them. The use of torture during witchcraft trials was illegal in England, but witch hunters had ways of getting around this. One favoured method of obtaining a confession was sleep and food deprivation - after a few nights, dazed victims were willing to say anything. Those who remained defiant could be given harsher treatment, such as being forced to walk around their cell for days until their feet bled.

Accused witches were subject to pricking regardless of gender and age

FIND THE WITCHES' MARK

In the 16th and 17th century, there was a common belief that all witches bore a witches' mark that would not bleed when pricked. This prompted the practice of 'pricking', in which the accused would be stripped, shaved and searched for marks – usually birthmarks or moles. Pins were driven into the skin to search for any spot that didn't bleed. Some witch hunters used needles with retractable points to give the impression that a mark had been found. A witches' mark wouldn't be enough for a conviction, but it certainly added to the evidence.

TRIAL BY WATER

If the accused still refused to confess, they would be subjected to the swimming test. This ordeal was based on the assumption that since witches had renounced their baptism, water would 'reject' them – meaning they would float. The accused was strapped to a stool or chair and dunked repeatedly into water. This brutal method had been outlawed in 1219, but made a comeback in the 17th century.

INTERROGATE THE WITCH

Once the witch hunter had publicly humiliated the accused, it was time to subject them to intense questioning. Witch hunters favoured leading questions that assumed the victim was guilty, such as: "How did you become acquainted with the devil?" The accused only needed to nod, and the witch finder would fill in the details. Special courts were set up across the country to deal with the witch hysteria, and a trial in Chelmsford in 1645 condemned and executed 19 people for witchcraft.

PUNISH THE WITCH

Once the witch hunter 'proved' the accused's guilt, they could hand out a variety of punishments. Some were imprisoned, others were flogged, the occasional fortunate 'witch' got away with a fine while some faced exile. However, many more faced capital punishment, and the methods varied from being burned at the stake to hanged or beheaded, depending on where they were convicted. Such public displays of execution did nothing to lessen the witch-hunt hysteria gripping the nation.

COLLECT YOUR FEE

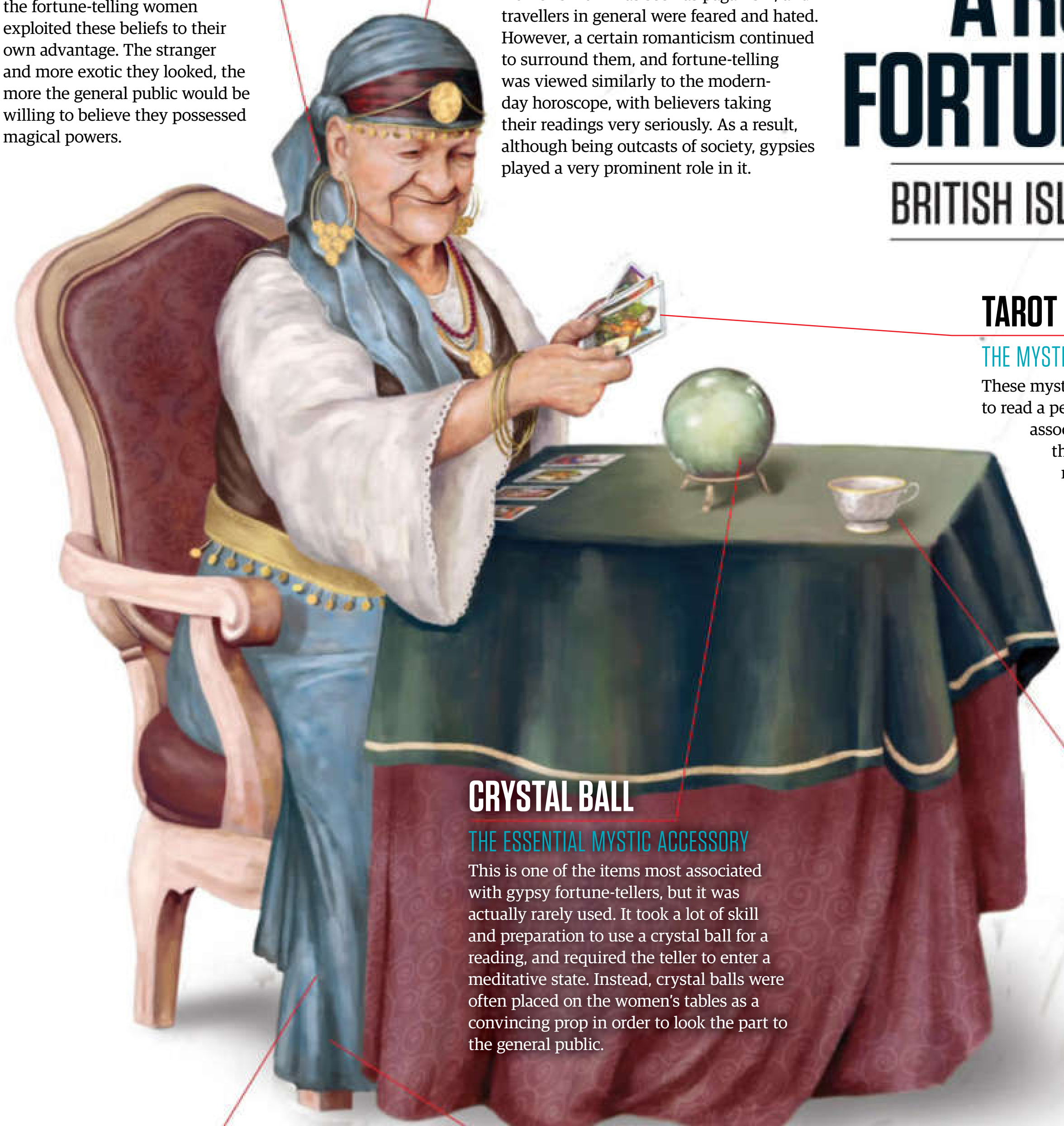
Being a witch hunter paid very well, and many believe this was the motivation for their work. Hopkins' fees could be as high as £23 a town, approximately £2,000 today, and this was on top of his travelling costs. Once the witch hunter had made a name for themselves they could hike their price up. Several towns visited by Hopkins had to create a special local tax just to afford his services. The fear surrounding witches was so great that people paid this without much complaint.

Convicted witches in Scotland, France and Switzerland faced being burned at the stake

© Alamy

THE *Anatomy of* A ROMANI FORTUNE-TELLER

BRITISH ISLES, 19TH CENTURY



EARRINGS

THE MORE BLING THE BETTER

19th-century fortune-tellers would embellish themselves in reams of jewellery and large droopy earrings. This was all part of the show. To the superstitious Victorian, gypsies were an entirely different entity separated from the norms of society, and the fortune-telling women exploited these beliefs to their own advantage. The stranger and more exotic they looked, the more the general public would be willing to believe they possessed magical powers.

AGE

AGE BEFORE BEAUTY

Another key attribute of a convincing gypsy fortune-teller was her age. The image of the old, haggard crone was prominent in Victorian literature, and society as a whole was fascinated with Romani fortune-tellers. This was due to a collision of ideas, as the women's work was seen as paganism, and travellers in general were feared and hated. However, a certain romanticism continued to surround them, and fortune-telling was viewed similarly to the modern-day horoscope, with believers taking their readings very seriously. As a result, although being outcasts of society, gypsies played a very prominent role in it.

TAROT CARDS

THE MYSTERIES OF LIFE IN A SINGLE DECK

These mysterious cards apparently able to read a person's future have a strong association with gypsy culture. In fact, they were so closely linked that many in the 19th century, gypsies included, believed that the first tarot deck had travelled with gypsies from Africa to Europe. In actual fact, tarot cards predated the presence of travellers in Europe and the first gypsies came from Asia, not Africa.

CRYSTAL BALL

THE ESSENTIAL MYSTIC ACCESSORY

This is one of the items most associated with gypsy fortune-tellers, but it was actually rarely used. It took a lot of skill and preparation to use a crystal ball for a reading, and required the teller to enter a meditative state. Instead, crystal balls were often placed on the women's tables as a convincing prop in order to look the part to the general public.

TEACUP

A VERY BRITISH PROPHECY

Tealeaves were another staple of the gypsy fortune-teller's table. Tea leaf reading, or Tasseomancy, involved the questioner drinking tea, swirling it and then turning the cup upside down. The fortune-teller would then turn the cup up and read the message in the leaves left behind. Tasseomancy became especially popular in the 1930s and 1940s, when gypsy tearooms popped up around the country.

GENDER

NO BOYS ALLOWED

Romani fortune-tellers were almost always female. This tendency for the mystics to be female came from the outer world's perception that gypsy women possessed magical powers, hence they would be more successful and popular than their male counterparts. As a result, the women were able to make considerable profits, and earned status in Romani society not for their 'talents' but for their wealth.

CLOAK

THE PERFECT COSTUME FOR THE PART

The gypsies' clothes were designed to further encourage the stereotypes surrounding them. Gypsies had been selling fortunes around France and Germany since the 15th century, so when they reached the British Isles in 1505, they already had a reputation as being connected to the mystical realm. The teller's 'costumes', with colourful headscarves, broad-rimmed hats and heavy cloaks, only added to this image.

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LINCOLN'S CIVIL WAR

Politically, the president of a country waging war on itself ought to have failed, yet Abraham Lincoln is revered for his leadership when American fought American

Written by Ian Rimmer

The bombardment began at 4.30am. Cannon batteries stationed around the harbour at Charleston in South Carolina launched salvo after salvo upon a small island fort. By 11am, a fifth of its buildings were on fire. Soon after midday, the fort's flagpole was struck, and 'Old Glory', the national flag of the United States, fell. For the structure under fire was Fort Sumter, a stronghold of the Federal Government in the first state to secede from the Union. The commander of the fort, Major Robert Anderson, had refused to surrender it to General PGT Beauregard of the Confederate army, and the cannons were lit. It was 12 April 1861. The American Civil War had begun.

The besieged fort remained under fire for 34 hours before Anderson surrendered. Somehow, no one perished in the actual attack. Yet, unmistakably, the forces of the Confederate States of America had opened fire on the forces of the United States of America. The nation was divided and at war with itself. How had it come to this?

Perhaps it was inevitable given the contradiction between the words in the 1776 Declaration of Independence and the morality of those who wrote them. The Declaration stated that it was a "self-evident" truth that "all men are created equal." Yet its guiding author, Thomas Jefferson, and many other signatories were slave owners. Indeed, the Constitution of 1787 permitted slavery. As many as eight presidents owned slaves while in office and many others in government were slaveholders.

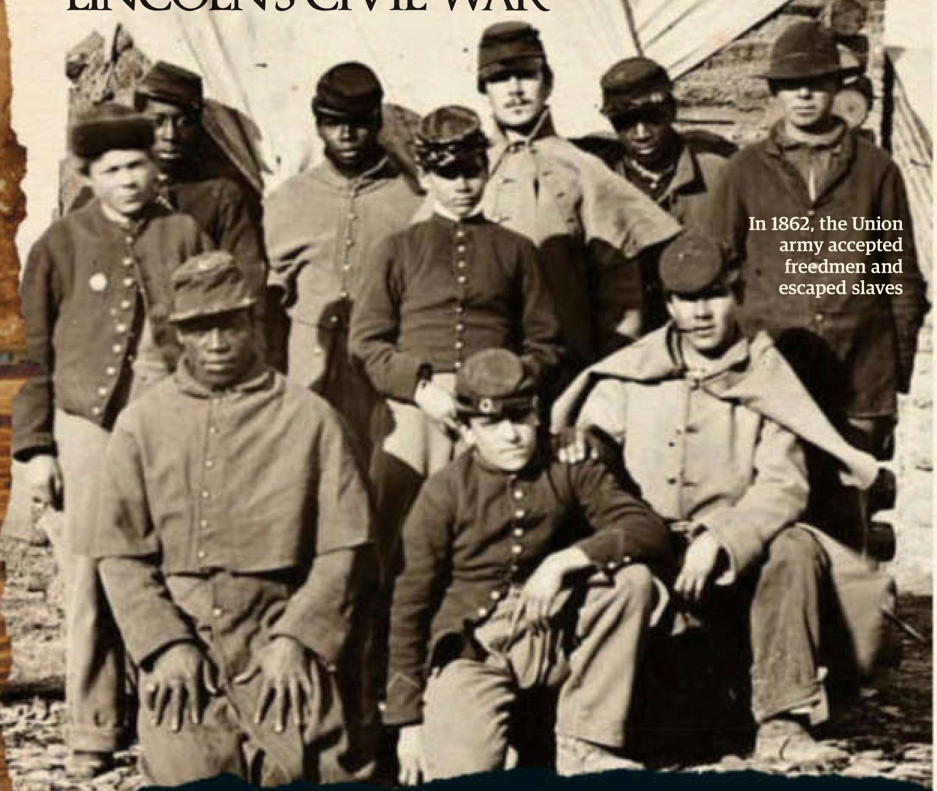
However, opposition to slavery was growing on moral, political and religious grounds. Many of the Northern States had abolished it by 1800. It was soon to be outlawed by the British Empire, too. As the abolition movement grew, inhabitants of the Southern States took to defending slavery as a 'paternalistic' institution, and a 'positive good', even using biblical references in their arguments. In reality, slavery in the South was the driving force of the region's economy. Plantation owners, particularly in the cotton fields, relied heavily upon slave labour. It wasn't going to be given up easily.

> "WE ALL DECLARE FOR LIBERTY, BUT IN USING THE SAME WORD WE DO NOT ALL MEAN THE SAME THING"
>
> **Address to Baltimore, 1864**

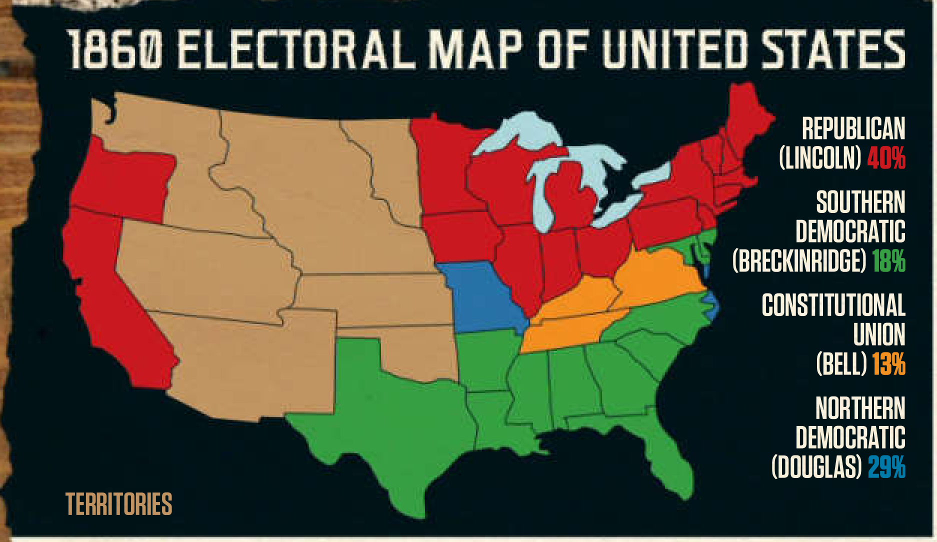
After the war with Mexico ended in 1848, the borders of the American Republic became finalised. Expansion into the new territories to the west began, but disputes about whether they should become free or slave states were fierce, and at times violent. Various compromises and short-term fixes gave some stability, but the ultimate problem was crystallised by a speech on 16 June 1858 in Springfield, Illinois. It was given by the newly formed Republican Party's candidate for the Illinois Senate seat. He argued: "A house divided against itself cannot stand. I believe this government cannot endure permanently, half slave and half free. I do not expect the Union to be dissolved. I do not expect this house to fall. But I do expect it will cease to be divided." The candidate's name was Abraham Lincoln.

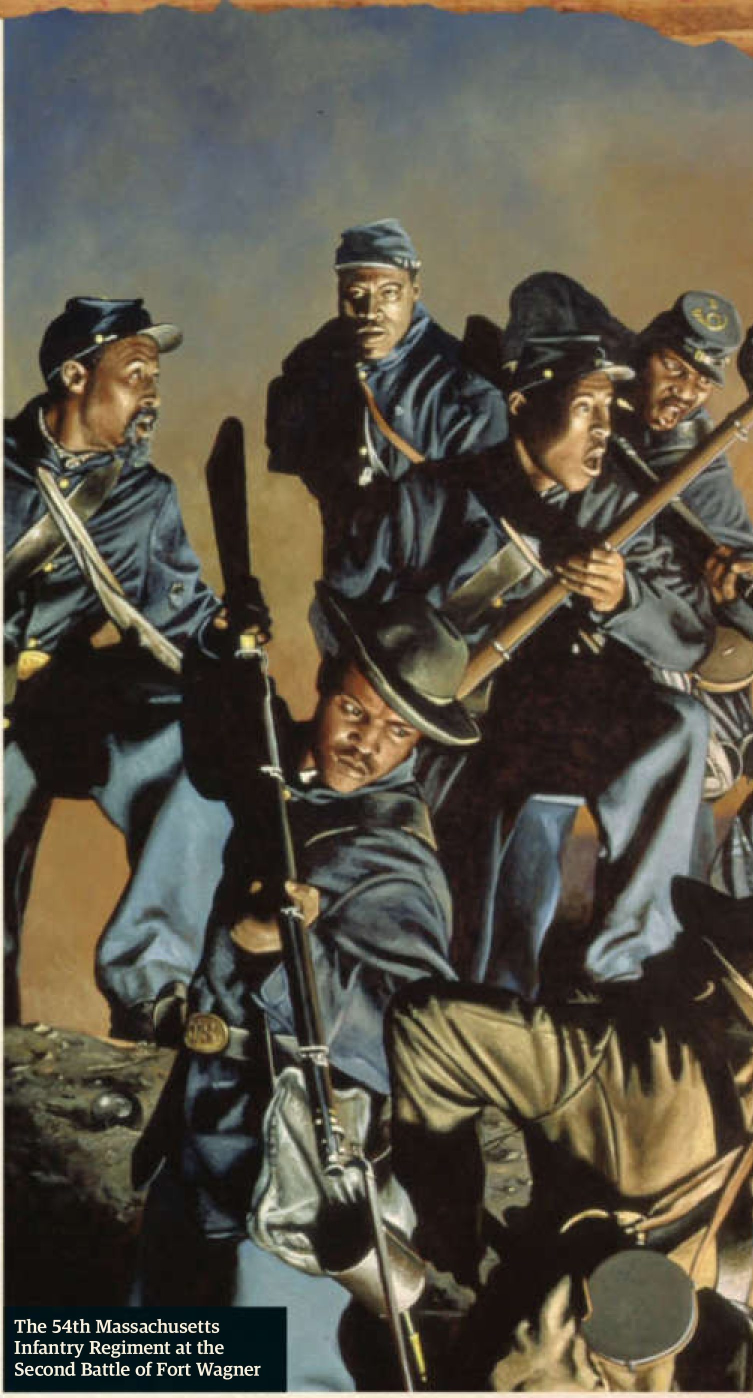
Born in 1809 to a poor Kentucky farming family, Lincoln was raised in a single-room log cabin. With minimal formal education, he virtually taught himself, later earning a living through various manual jobs. After the family moved to Illinois, he applied his mind to learning the law, eventually passing the bar exam in 1836. Lincoln made a success of his profession to earn a good living. He married Mary Todd, the daughter of a wealthy Kentucky slaveholder, in 1846 and later served a single term in the House of Representatives as a Whig party member. The Whigs, though, were a waning political force. A new grouping, the Republicans, which opposed the extension of slavery to the newer states, appealed to Lincoln. He joined them in 1856. Within two years, he was selected as the Republican Party's Illinois nomination for the US Senate.

Lincoln's opponent was the sitting US senator of the Democrat Party Stephen Douglas. The pair contested seven debates, which were extensively reported in newspapers across the country. Lincoln's closely argued proposition of prohibiting



In 1862, the Union army accepted freedmen and escaped slaves


1860 ELECTORAL MAP OF UNITED STATES
REPUBLICAN (LINCOLN) 40%
SOUTHERN DEMOCRATIC (BRECKINRIDGE) 18%
CONSTITUTIONAL UNION (BELL) 13%
NORTHERN DEMOCRATIC (DOUGLAS) 29%
TERRITORIES



The 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment at the Second Battle of Fort Wagner

the extension of slavery in the new territories frequently forced Douglas on to the back foot. Despite that, Douglas prevailed when the state legislature (which at that time elected US senators) voted 54-46 in the Democrat's favour. However, the positions Douglas had adopted in countering Lincoln's arguments angered his party's members in the Southern States, which later proved costly.

In contrast, despite losing the Senate race, Lincoln won widespread acclaim as an eloquent debater for Republican values. When his party sought a candidate to run for president in 1860, it turned to the poor farmer's boy from Kentucky.

The belief was that as a moderate candidate, Lincoln could win in Pennsylvania and the Mid-west States. He was not an abolitionist, like some more radical members of his party, and he pledged not to interfere with slavery in the Southern States. Indeed, he felt the Constitution prohibited any attempt to do so. Yet he had always been against slavery, labelling it wrong both morally and politically. His fervent hope was that it would become extinct over time as states moved to reject it. Crucially, however, he was firm in his opposition to allowing it to spread to the new territories.

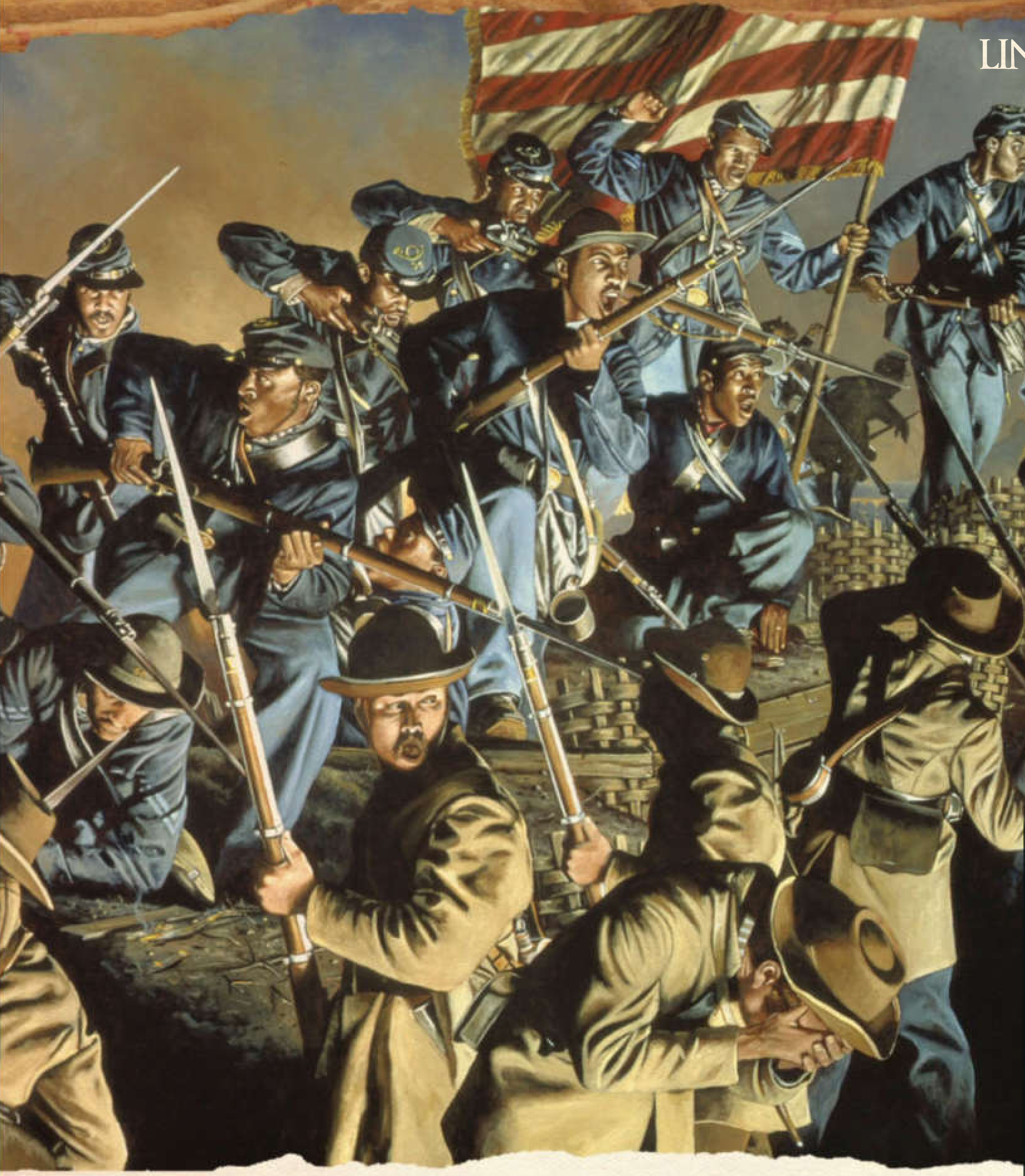
Meanwhile, as if seeking to test the view that 'a house divided cannot stand', the Democrats split into North and South when choosing a presidential candidate. Those in the North championed Lincoln's Senate adversary Stephen Douglas. Democrats in the South, though, remained hostile to him. Hardening their position, they selected then current vice-president John Breckinridge, a staunch pro-slavery man, to also stand.

With slightly less than 40 per cent of the national vote, Lincoln garnered enough state electoral votes to become the Union's 16th president. Yet in the Southern States, where his name often didn't even appear on the ballot paper, hardly anyone voted for him. Fuelled by a sense of unfairness, within days of Lincoln's victory South Carolina organised a secession convention. On 20 December 1860, the state left the Union.

Before the new president's inauguration on 4 March 1861, the states Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana and Texas also seceded. The seven declared themselves a new nation called The Confederate States of America. It even had a president in place, Jefferson Davis, before Lincoln had actually taken office.

Yet when he did, the 16th president's inauguration speech set out very clearly what was at stake. "In your hands, my dissatisfied fellow countrymen, and not in mine, is the momentous issue of civil war," he cautioned. Lincoln stated unequivocally that his government would not

> "WHEN I HEAR ANYONE ARGUING FOR SLAVERY, I FEEL A STRONG IMPULSE TO SEE IT TRIED ON HIM PERSONALLY"
>
> **Statement to an Indiana regiment passing through Washington, 1865**



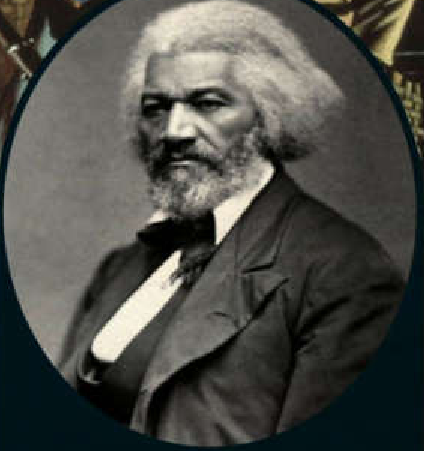
orchestrate an invasion of the Confederacy, but if Union outposts in it came under attack, he was duty bound as president to act in their defence. "You can have no conflict," the speech continued, "without yourselves being the aggressors." And so they proved to be at Fort Sumter. Perhaps inevitably, then, war it was.

Four more states – Virginia, Arkansas, North Carolina and Tennessee – quickly joined the other rebels, making it 11 against the Union's 23. The act of firing upon the flag was seen as treasonous, even by Lincoln's Democrat adversaries like Douglas, and after the fall of Old Glory at Fort Sumter, the North now had a reason to go to war. Its aim was to put an end to secession and save the Union. The South's objective was far simpler: it merely needed to survive.

The Confederacy was suffering from a much smaller population and was massively weaker in terms of industrial power and financial resources. Taken together, these factors pointed to a war that was going to be a long struggle. Both sides needed to call on large numbers of volunteers to form their armies. Leading them were officers from the pre-war US Army Military Academy at West Point. A significant number of the more able were from the South, and many resigned their commissions in order to fight for the Confederate cause.

This presented Lincoln with a problem. His general-in-chief, Winfield Scott, was a 75-year-old veteran on the verge of retirement, and there was no obvious successor. One contender was Brigadier General Irwin McDowell, who led the Union army in the war's earliest major clash, the First Battle of Bull Run in Virginia. To begin with, this confusing conflict between two virtually new armies of limited training appeared to be going McDowell's way, but stubborn Confederate resistance turned it into a humiliating Union defeat.

With McDowell's star waning, General George McClellan was promoted to general-in-chief when Scott retired. Arrogant and ambitious, McClellan clashed with his political superiors in Washington, and while he trained the army well through



FREDERICK DOUGLASS AND THE ABOLITIONIST MOVEMENT

Born into slavery in 1818, Frederick Douglass escaped to become a leading campaigner to end the practice and a significant African-American leader of the 19th century.

The son of a slave woman and an unknown white man, Frederick took the surname Douglass after a second, and this time successful, escape from bondage. Living in New Bedford, Massachusetts, he married and became involved in the abolitionist movement, delivering moving lectures on the brutality of his upbringing.

Encouraged to write his autobiography, a powerful indictment of slavery, the book revealed he was a fugitive slave, forcing him to flee to England. Supporters 'purchased' his freedom, allowing Douglass to return in 1847. He quickly set up an anti-slavery newspaper, which continued under various names until 1863.

During the civil war, Douglass lobbied for African-Americans to be allowed to fight. After the Emancipation Proclamation, he recruited for the 54th Massachusetts Infantry, the first regiment of black soldiers. At war's end, he turned to campaigning for black rights, going on to hold several government posts before his death in 1895.

the winter, he didn't deliver decisive battlefield victories. McClellan's tactical caution was in stark contrast to the aggressive instincts of Confederate commanders like Robert E Lee. When the pair clashed at the Battle of Antietam in September 1862, McClellan's force outnumbered Lee's by almost two to one. In ferocious combat – in terms of casualties, it was the costliest day of fighting in American history – the Confederates were driven back to Virginia, but Lincoln was left frustrated that the retreating army was not vigorously pursued. He sacked McClellan two months later.

Conflicts with his generals were a feature of Lincoln's early years in the White House. With war imminent, he had read up voraciously on military theory. He sought to be an involved commander-in-chief, going far beyond visits to troops and military hospitals to raise the moral – which he did many times – to advocating strategy on how the war should be fought. Initially, this came in the form of his Memorandum on Military Policy, which he wrote in the wake of the First Battle of Bull Run debacle. By January 1862, the president was articulating how the land war could be won: by using the Union's superior numbers to attack simultaneously across a broad number of fronts, forcing breakthroughs when the enemy moved forces to secure pressure points, and at the same time engaging and defeating the enemy armies wherever possible rather than trying to occupy or capture specific places. Lincoln's difficulty was in finding generals who thought like he did.

Still, Antietam was claimed as a Union victory, and following it, Lincoln seized the opportunity to confront the issue of slavery. At war's onset, he had maintained its purpose was to save the Union and pledged to leave the institution of slavery unaffected in the Southern States. Lincoln believed he wasn't able to challenge state-sanctioned servitude under the Constitution, which kept the important border slave states of Missouri, Kentucky, Maryland and Delaware loyal to the Union.

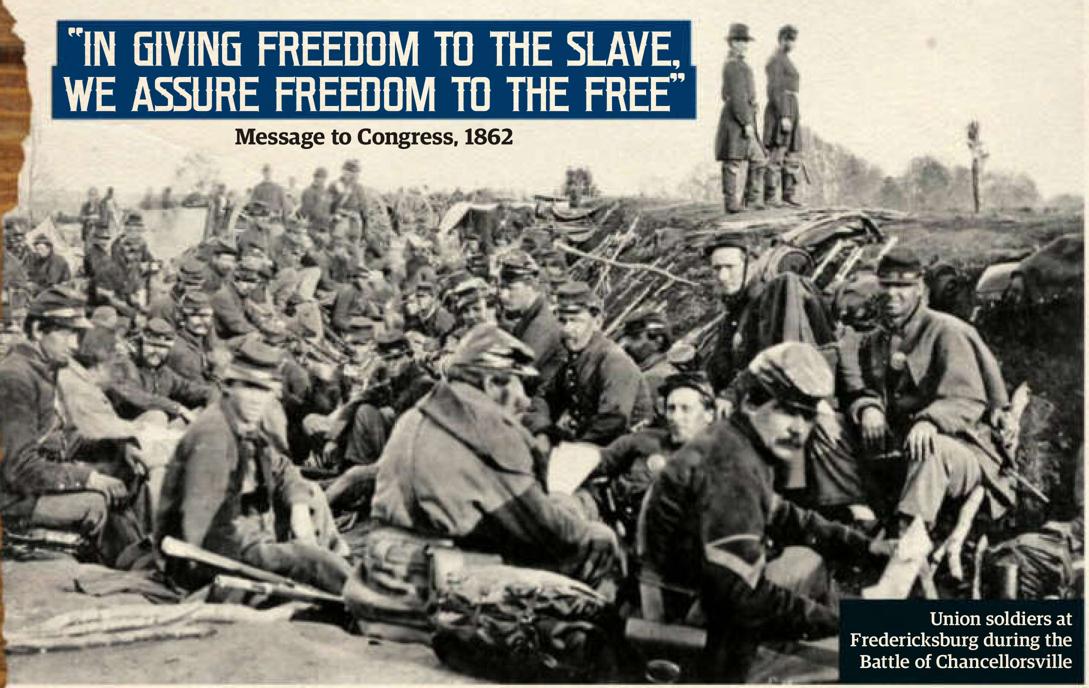
However, as the war unfolded, slavery's effects couldn't be ignored, as they were damaging the Union campaign. Slaves were used to construct defences for the Confederate armies, while slave work on farms and plantations kept the South's economy going, allowing more of the white population to fight. Determined to affect the balance of the war, Lincoln issued the Preliminary Emancipation Proclamation in September 1862.

The timing had to be right. Lincoln himself had already been forced to quash military decree emancipations made by several Union generals, because he believed only the president, through constitutionally sanctioned war powers, could enforce emancipation. He was also anxious about public opinion, fearing that if he moved too soon, not enough people in the North would support him, or that he might lose those important border states. It was knife-edge politics, but Lincoln judged that, just five days after the Union victory at Antietam, the time was right to press home the advantage and further undermine the Confederate war effort with the Proclamation.

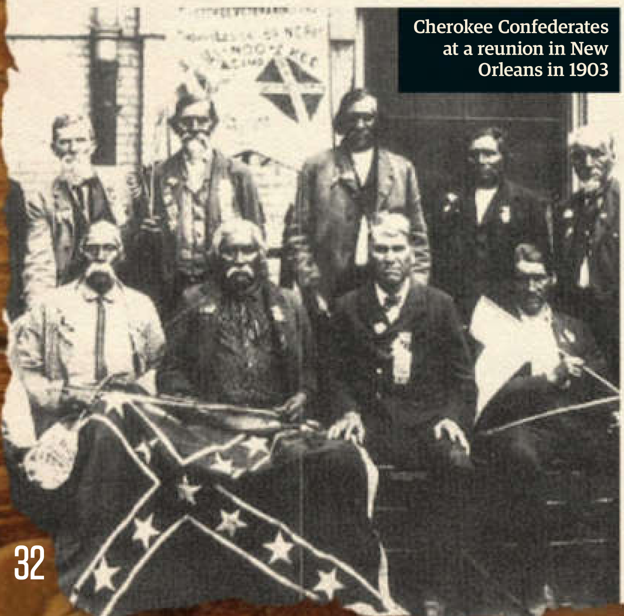
The document offered terms for the rebel states to return to the Union provided they agreed to begin arrangements to end slavery, but if they failed to do so by 1 January 1863, all slaves in those states would be set free forever. As such a move would harm the Confederacy, the president argued it was a legitimate war measure that was both necessary and just. When, as anticipated, the rebel states ignored the Preliminary Proclamation, Lincoln was

"IN GIVING FREEDOM TO THE SLAVE, WE ASSURE FREEDOM TO THE FREE"

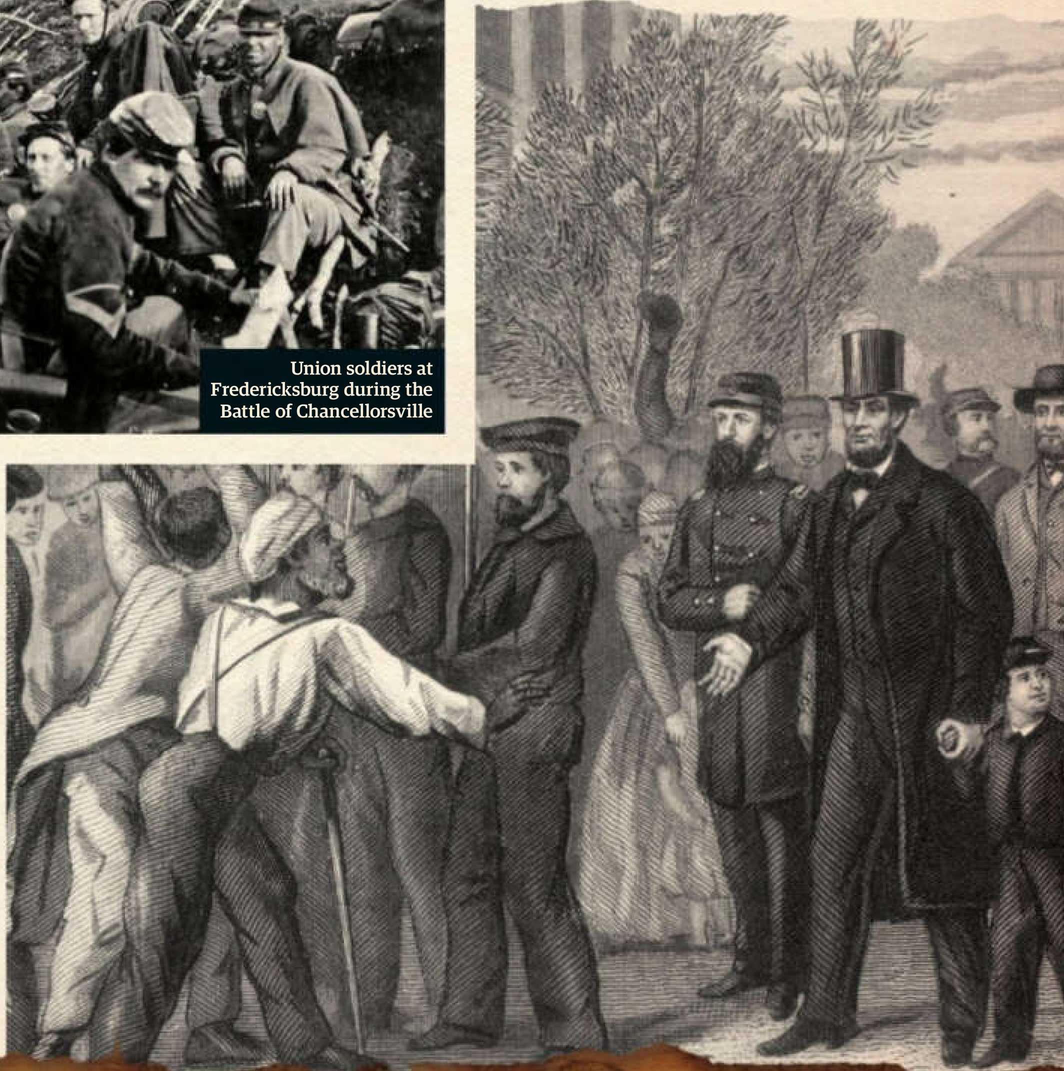
Message to Congress, 1862



Union soldiers at Fredericksburg during the Battle of Chancellorsville



Cherokee Confederates at a reunion in New Orleans in 1903

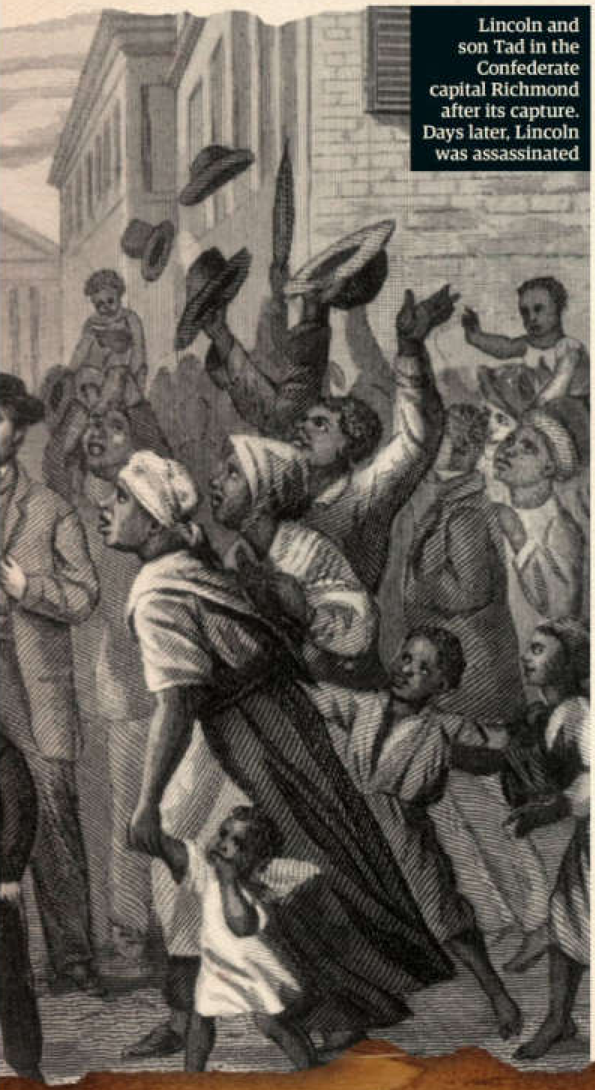


able to issue the Final Proclamation on the first day of 1863. "I never in my life felt more certain that I am doing right than I do in signing this paper," he said on putting his name to the document. He was sure, and there was considerable hope in the Union that it would hasten the end of the conflict.

The Emancipation Proclamation also had two other important effects. First, it brought a moral dimension to the war. Always an opponent of slavery on grounds of morality, Lincoln had now shifted the aim of the war from being not just about preserving the Union, but to setting people free. While personally important to Lincoln, this was also vital internationally, as the Confederacy had hoped to secure support from Europe. Yet France and the British Empire, where slavery had been outlawed since 1833, could not legitimately be seen to support a slave-holding republic against a nation embarked on setting slaves free.

Second, the Proclamation allowed for freedmen to enlist in the Union army. This, coupled with a surge of African-American volunteers already free in the North, offered a timely and welcome boost in manpower. It paved the way for the United States Colored Troops, which became a significant component of the Union armies.

However, the Proclamation only freed slaves in the states still outside the Union. To go further, Lincoln needed the affirmation of a second election victory, but in the first half of 1864, that didn't



Lincoln and son Tad in the Confederate capital Richmond after its capture. Days later, Lincoln was assassinated

★ UNION GENERALS ★

Identifying the right man to command Union forces on the ground and fight the campaign he envisaged proved challenging and frustrating for the president

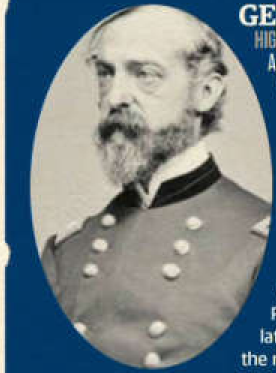
ULYSSES S GRANT

HIGHEST RANK: GENERAL-IN-CHIEF OF UNION ARMIES

APPOINTED: MARCH 1864

★★★★★

After successful raids on forts in Tennessee, Grant was promoted to major general. He was almost routed at Shiloh but retrieved the situation, then further distinguished himself at Vicksburg. He took charge of all Union forces, confronting and finally defeating Lee in Virginia.



GEORGE MEADE

HIGHEST RANK: MAJOR GENERAL, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC

APPOINTED: AUGUST 1864

★★★☆☆

Despite taking command only days before, Meade defeated Lee at Gettysburg, yet he was heavily criticised for not pursuing the retreating force. Guided by Grant, he led the Army of the Potomac successfully in later campaigns, later earning the rank of major general.

JOSEPH HOOKER

HIGHEST RANK: MAJOR GENERAL, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC

APPOINTED: JANUARY 1863

★★★☆☆

Hooker revitalised the army, restoring morale. However, after successes prior to his appointment when he was dubbed 'Fighting Joe', he endured a chequered career in battle afterwards, and never fully recovered from heavy defeat and retreat at Chancellorsville.

GEORGE McCLELLAN

HIGHEST RANK: GENERAL-IN-CHIEF OF UNION ARMIES

APPOINTED: NOVEMBER 1861

★☆☆☆☆

Although he reorganised the Union army, turning volunteers into an efficient force, McClellan was cripplingly cautious on the battlefield. Failure to exploit advantages frustrated Lincoln, who lost patience and relieved him of command in November 1862.

WILLIAM SHERMAN

HIGHEST RANK: MAJOR GENERAL, OVERSEEING THE UNION'S WESTERN ARMIES

APPOINTED: MARCH 1864

★★★★☆

Sherman was promoted to brigadier general after the First Battle of Bull Run, but he suffered a nervous breakdown. After being reinstated, he then led the capture of Atlanta. He waged 'total war' through Georgia and the Carolinas.

WINFIELD SCOTT

HIGHEST RANK: GENERAL-IN-CHIEF OF UNION ARMIES

APPOINTED: FEBRUARY 1855, RETIRED NOVEMBER 1861

★★★☆☆

Aged 75 as the conflict began, Scott was unable to take field command, nevertheless he devised the strategy of blockading the South's ports and raiding down the Mississippi. Although rejected, the North triumphed using similar tactics.

AMBROSE BURNSIDE

HIGHEST RANK: MAJOR GENERAL, ARMY OF THE POTOMAC

APPOINTED: NOVEMBER 1862

★★☆☆☆

When he finally replaced McClellan, Burnside attacked but lost expensively at Fredericksburg. Relieved of command, he resurfaced to outwit General Longstreet in Tennessee, but failed badly again at the Battle of Crater.

And one that got away...

ROBERT E LEE

HIGHEST RANK: GENERAL-IN-CHIEF OF CONFEDERATE ARMIES

APPOINTED: FEBRUARY 1865

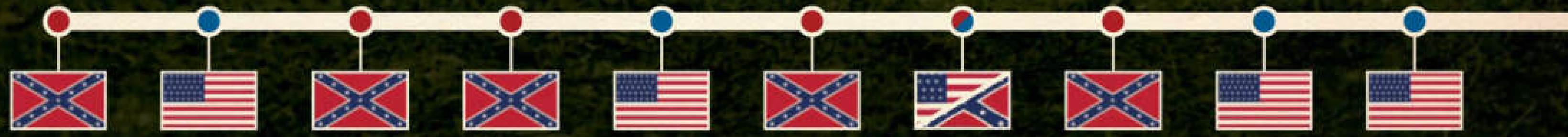
★★★★★

Lee declined the command of Union forces in April 1861, claiming he was unable to fight fellow Virginians. Becoming a Confederate General, Lee commanded the Army of North Virginia, and later all Confederate forces.

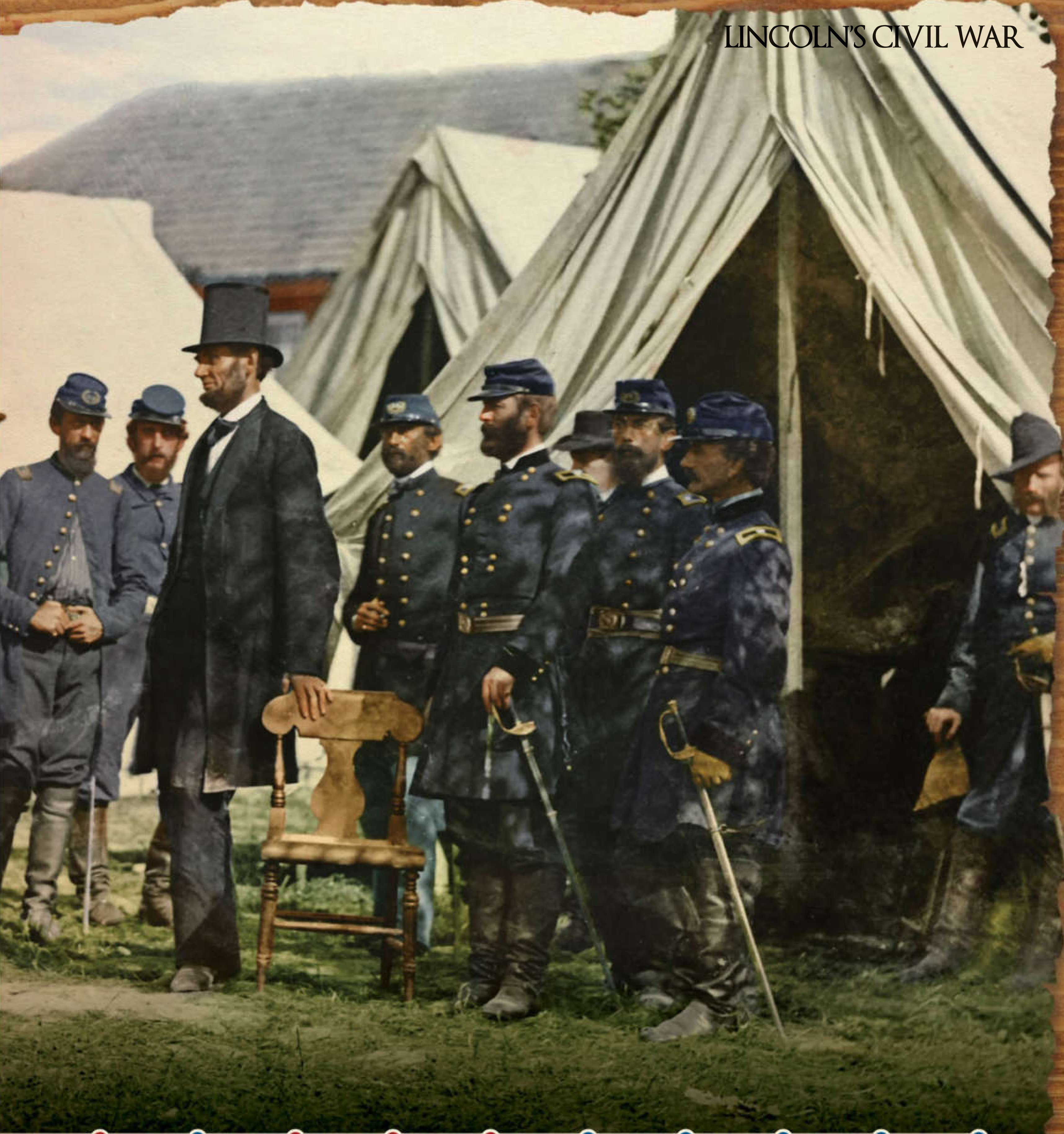
Civil War Performance	★★★★★	★★★★☆	★★★☆☆	★★☆☆☆	★☆☆☆☆
	Superb	**Effective**	**Mixed**	**Disappointing**	**Poor**

BATTLE VICTORIES

The crucial clashes of the American Civil War ranged from almost inconsequential skirmishes to the bloody slaughter that was Gettysburg



- **First Battle of Bull Run** 21 JULY 1861
- **Shiloh** 6-7 APRIL 1862
- **The Seven Days Battles** 25 JUNE – 1 JULY 1862
- **Second Battle of Bull Run** 29-30 AUGUST 1862
- **Antietam** 17 SEPTEMBER 1862
- **Fredericksburg** 13 DECEMBER 1862
- **Stones River** 31 DECEMBER 1862 – 2 JANUARY 1863
- **Chancellorsville** 1 MAY – 5 MAY 1863
- **Siege at Vicksburg** 18 MAY – 4 JULY 1863
- **Gettysburg** 1-3 JULY 1863



Chickamauga 19-20 SEPTEMBER 1863

Chattanooga 23-25 NOVEMBER 1863

The Wilderness 5-6 MAY 1864

Spotsylvania 8-21 MAY 1864

Brice's Crossroads 10 JUNE 1864

Siege at Atlanta 22 JULY – 1 SEPTEMBER 1864

Nashville 15-16 DECEMBER 1864

Siege at Petersburg 18 JUNE 1864 – 2 APRIL 1865

Sayler's Creek 6 APRIL 1865

Appomattox Court House 9 APRIL 1865
Lee surrenders

LINCOLN'S VICES & VIRTUES

VIRTUES

Arch politician
Aided by stunning speech-making, Lincoln was as skilled a political operator as there has ever been. His genius lay in courting different opinions, often at odds with his own, then setting a course, and bringing those of differing views along with him.

Forbearance
President Lincoln set off along a difficult, painful path with an iron resolve. He faced criticism and scorn from many quarters but he did not waver, believing the cause of protecting the Union was a duty he had to accomplish.

A hands-on leader
From strategic planning to appointing or dismissing generals, Lincoln was an active, interventionist commander-in-chief during the civil war. Furthermore, he was also equally busy in attending units of active soldiers to raise moral, or visiting the wounded in hospitals.

Honesty
Acquiring the moniker 'Honest Abe' from his days as a young storekeeper, it stuck with Lincoln through his career as a lawyer and later in the White House. His integrity informed both friend and foe alike exactly where they stood with him.

Humour
There was a lighter side to Lincoln. He told stories, yarns, jokes and anecdotes throughout his life to win over audiences, to illustrate certain points, and sometimes just to lighten the mood in cabinet before facing up to important decisions.

VICES

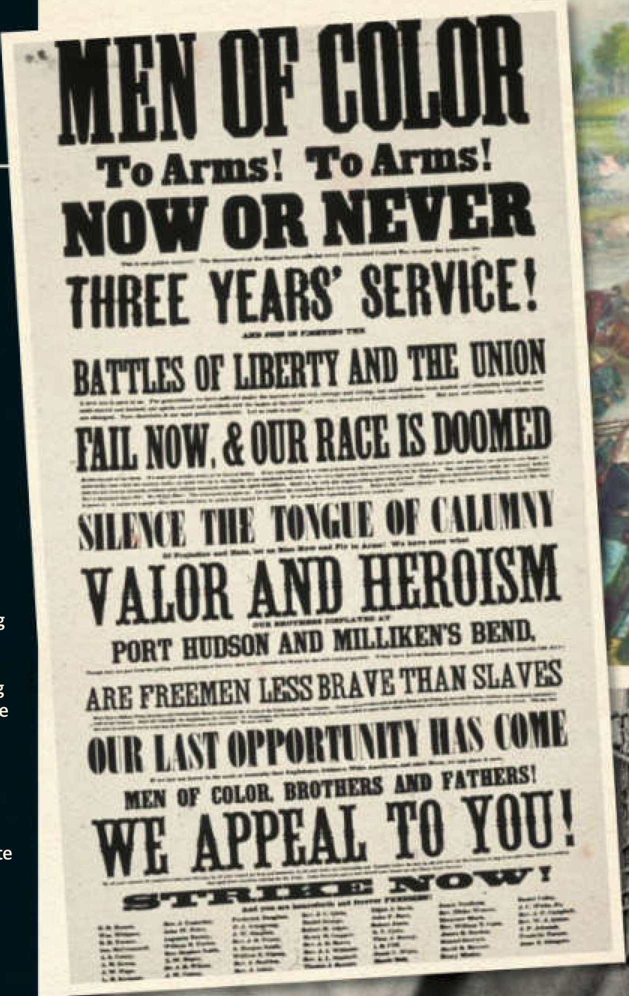
"The vision thing"
George Bush Senior's remark was about his inability to articulate ideas to shape the nation. Lincoln, by his own words, was similarly inhibited when he wrote: "I claim not to have controlled events, but confess plainly that events have controlled me."

Race and colonisation
For far too long, Lincoln clung stubbornly to his political hero Henry Clay's views on racial separation via colonisation. Perhaps the lack of vision contributed, but for such a practical politician, it was an extraordinarily impractical solution to support.

Civil rights
Lincoln exercised unprecedented executive power at the onset of the war, including suspending habeas corpus and shutting down opposition newspapers. His measures drew criticism not only from opponents and but also some supporters, who feared he had exceeded his authority.

Foolhardiness with his own safety
Warned of assassination plots against him, Lincoln shunned the use of bodyguards. He frequently rode alone at night, and was shot in August 1864. He escaped injury, though his stovepipe hat was later found holed by a musket ball.

Remoteness
For a man capable of working with politicians of many different views, Lincoln made few close friends. He allowed people to get only so close, being variously described as "not a social man by any means" and even "secretive."



MEN OF COLOR

To Arms! To Arms!

NOW OR NEVER

THREE YEARS' SERVICE!

BATTLES OF LIBERTY AND THE UNION

FAIL NOW, & OUR RACE IS DOOMED

SILENCE THE TONGUE OF CALUMNY

VALOR AND HEROISM

PORT HUDSON AND MILLIKEN'S BEND.

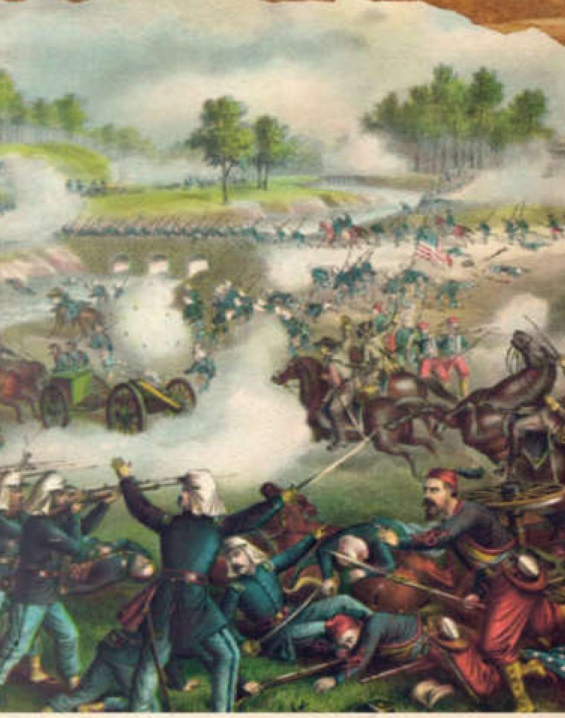
ARE FREEMEN LESS BRAVE THAN SLAVES

OUR LAST OPPORTUNITY HAS COME

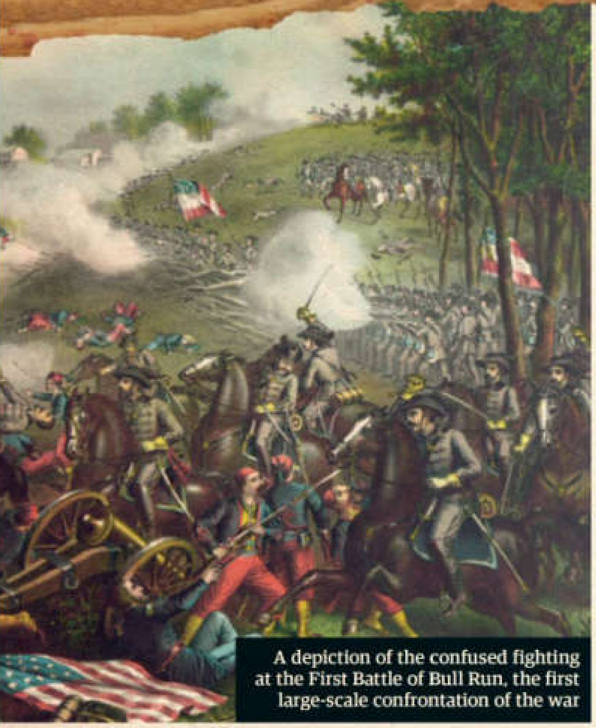
MEN OF COLOR, BROTHERS AND FATHERS!

WE APPEAL TO YOU!

STRIKE NOW!



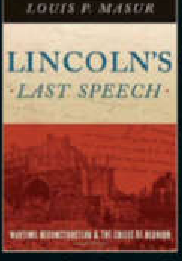
Lincoln finally found the general he wanted in Ulysses S Grant, who later became president himself



A depiction of the confused fighting at the First Battle of Bull Run, the first large-scale confrontation of the war

EXPERT OPINION
WAS LINCOLN THE GREATEST US PRESIDENT EVER?

◆



Louis P Masur is a distinguished professor of American studies and history at Rutgers University and the author of numerous books including ***Lincoln's Last Speech: Wartime Reconstruction And The Crisis Of Reunion*, *Lincoln's Hundred Days: The Emancipation Proclamation And The War For Union*, and *The Civil War: A Concise History*.**

Washington and Lincoln. One made the nation and the other saved it. For me, Lincoln is the greatest president not only for what he did – defend democracy, preserve the Union, issue the Emancipation Proclamation and lay the foundations for a modernising, industrial USA – but also for the qualities of leadership he exhibited. Lincoln was patient, deliberate, a shrewd judge of character, and most important of all willing to change his mind over time. "The dogmas of the quiet past are inadequate to the stormy present," he declared. With actions and words that continue to inspire, he led the nation through war to peace and set the framework for a "new birth of freedom." 150 years after his death, his legacy continues to bear fruit.

seem likely. The war was costing so many lives on both sides that Republican radicals felt the president had mismanaged the conflict and were lobbying for a different candidate, while rebel state armies were proving stubbornly resistant. A small Confederate force led by General Jubal Early even launched an audacious attack on Washington, DC in July. They got close and caused panic in the capital. Lincoln sought to quell it by being a visible presence, facing down the crisis with visits to fortifications on the edge of the city. Observing some skirmishing from the parapet of Fort Stevens, he came under sniper fire until extolled to climb down, earning the distinction of the only wartime commander-in-chief to be directly shot at by the enemy.

By that time, though, Lincoln had a general-in-chief he could rely on after he appointed Ulysses S Grant earlier in the year. Union strength finally began to show with crucial battlefield successes in August and September, turning the election tide in Lincoln's favour. He faced his sacked general, McClellan, for the Democrats, who were still split between those wanting a swift peace and pro-war moderates like McClellan himself. Lincoln triumphed emphatically.

A major policy plank of the Republican Party's re-election campaign was to amend the Constitution to permanently ban slavery across the country. Vindicated by his election victory, Lincoln moved swiftly to bring the Thirteenth Amendment into being. It took skilled political manoeuvring but Lincoln convinced the outgoing 38th Congress to give it bipartisan support, and the amendment was passed on 31 January 1865.

Unquestionably, however, Lincoln also wrestled with the issue of what effect freeing millions of black people would have on race relations in the nation. Part of his Preliminary Proclamation referred to voluntary colonisation abroad for those set free. This was dropped from the Final Proclamation, and Lincoln never spoke publicly about the issue again, leaving historians to debate his motives. Some suggest coupling freeing slaves with colonisation was a ploy to help sell emancipation to doubters. Others argue that, given Union ranks were set to be swelled by black recruits, he changed his view on the issue.

Private Edwin Francis Jemison came to represent child soldiers of the war

> "THE PROBABILITY THAT WE MAY FAIL IN THE STRUGGLE OUGHT NOT TO DETER US FROM US FROM THE SUPPORT OF A CAUSE WE BELIEVE TO BE JUST; IT SHALL NOT DETER ME"
>
> **Speech to sub-committee, 1839**

Both opinions essentially give the president a pass on the colonisation policy, but recent evidence has come to light suggesting he never fully abandoned it. In *Colonisation After Emancipation: Lincoln And The Movement For Black Resettlement*, authors Phillip Magness and Sebastian Page have discovered evidence that the president was still attempting to make colonisation arrangements long after the Final Proclamation.

Their research reveals that in addition to the colonies he hoped to set up in Panama, Haiti and Liberia, the president was in extensive secretive discussions with the British government to find further suitable lands in the West Indies. The authors suggest that Lincoln was actively pursuing the policy far longer than has previously been acknowledged, potentially into 1865.

The idea of voluntary colonisation took shape in 1816 with the formation of the American Colonisation Society. Bluntly, the view was that as slaves had been stolen from abroad, once emancipated they should be humanely returned abroad. One of the society's founders was Henry Clay, leader of the Whig party and a political hero of Lincoln's. Clay's views profoundly influenced the president's ideas, apparently to the extent that on the issue of colonisation, he appears never to have fully revised them.

In his defence, even the best of men are not immune from alighting upon the wrong answer, and nobody knew what a post-civil war, post-slavery USA would look like. Lincoln, seeking to avoid extensive racial disharmony and searching for a way forward, thought consented colonisation might offer a solution. While a miscalculated, impractical and embarrassingly paternalistic solution in hindsight, everything else we know about him tells us he wouldn't have suggested it through malice.

As events transpired, Lincoln never got to see post-civil war USA himself. Grant's tactics of attacking across a wide front created advances deep into Confederate territory. Once Atlanta fell to General Sherman in September 1864, he pushed on to the coast, slicing Georgia in two. The following April, after a nine-month campaign, Grant's army pierced Lee's resistance at Petersburg. The Confederate capital of Richmond fell soon after. His troops exhausted and heavily outnumbered, Lee had no option but to surrender on 9 April 1865. Five nights later, Lincoln visited Ford Theatre in Washington, where Confederate sympathiser John Wilkes Booth assassinated him with a single bullet to the head. By June, the last unit of Confederate troops had lain down their arms. The civil war was over, though the president who felt compelled to fight it was not alive to construct its peace.

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LINCOLN'S CIVIL WAR
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CONQUERING EVEREST

EDMUND HILLARY'S CLIMB TO THE TOP

How an explorer from New Zealand became the first man in history to reach the summit of the world's highest mountain

Written by Owen Williams

At 11.30am on 29 May 1953, Edmund Hillary and his Nepali Sherpa companion Tenzing Norgay stood at 8,848 metres above sea level and finally stopped to survey the view: one that nobody had seen before. The two were the first to reach the summit of Mount Everest, the highest mountain in the world. Standing proud among the Himalayas, bordered by Tibet and Nepal, the mountain had defeated all previous attempts to conquer it. Hillary's expedition companions Tom Bourdillon and Charles Evans had, just days before, come within 100 metres of the top, but been forced to turn back. Hillary would graciously credit his triumph as a team effort, praising Bourdillon and Evans's work in clearing the path. However, the first foot on the highest point on Earth was his.

Everest was so named in 1865 by the Royal Geographical Society, after the Surveyor General of India Sir George Everest. The mountain is known in Nepal as Sagarmāthā and in Tibet as Chomolungma, and Sir George actually protested the tribute as it was a name that couldn't be pronounced in or translated into Hindi. It stuck whether he liked it or not. High winds, low oxygen, ice falls, avalanches, freezing temperatures and blizzards make it a treacherous climb, but Clinton Thomas Dent, then president of The Alpine Club, mused that it was possible in 1885. It would be 68 years before he was proved correct.

Several attempts preceded the successful Hillary expedition. George Mallory and Guy Bullock led an exploratory mission in 1921, discovering the northern route from Tibet (the approach from the south east in Nepal is considered 'standard', if hardly easy). George Finch was the first to attempt the climb with bottled oxygen the following year, making good progress to 8,320 metres - the highest a human had ever officially climbed - before turning back. Mallory also tried again in 1922, and once more in 1924: his final climb from which he and his partner Andrew Irvine never returned. Mallory's body was eventually discovered in a snow basin on the North Face in 1999.

Hugh Ruttledge made two unsuccessful assaults on the North Face in 1933 and 1936. After China closed access to Westerners from Tibet in 1950, Bill Tilman tried the south-east route later that year. Sherpa Tenzing and Raymond Lambert achieved a new altitude record of 8,610 metres during Edouard Wyss-Dunant's Swiss expedition of 1952. That experience would make Tenzing indispensable in 1953.

The ten attempts that preceded Edmund Hillary, and the reasons they didn't make it to the top

1922

Climbers: Charles Granville Bruce, Edward Lisle Strutt, George Mallory, George Finch, Geoffrey Bruce

Why they failed: After three attempts, an avalanche killed seven Sherpa climbers. Their's were the first recorded deaths on Everest.

1924

Climbers: George Mallory, Andrew Irvine, Edward Norton

Why they failed: Mallory and Irvine disappeared during a push for the summit. Mallory's body wasn't found until 1999.

1933

Climbers: Hugh Ruttledge, Lawrence Wager, Percy Wyn-Harris, Eric Shipton, Frank Smythe

Why they failed: Wager and Wyn-Harris missed the route they'd intended to take and turned back in poor snow conditions. Shipton turned back due to illness.

1935

Climbers: Eric Shipton, Bill Tilman, Charles Wigram, Edmund Wigram, Tenzing Norgay

Why they failed: They didn't - this was just reconnaissance and the summit wasn't attempted. They correctly identified the Western Cwm as a possible route.

1936

Climbers: Hugh Ruttledge, Bill Tilman, Frank Smythe, Percy Wyn-Harris, Dan Bryant

Why they failed: Unusually early monsoon conditions scuppered Ruttledge's second attempt. His team only just survived an avalanche.

1938

Climbers: Bill Tilman, Eric Shipton, Frank Smythe, Noel Odell, Peter Lloyd

Why they failed: Climbing without supplemental oxygen, this team was forced to abandon the attempt due to sickness and bad weather.

1947

Climbers: Earl Denman, Tenzing Norgay, Ang Dawa

Why they failed: An unofficial expedition and an illegal entry into Tibet, this attempt ended when the small party was hammered by bad weather.

1950

Climbers: Bill Tilman, Charles Houston, Oscar Houston, Betsy Cowles

Why they failed: As in 1935, this was just an exploratory expedition, investigating the now standard approach to Everest from the south.

1951

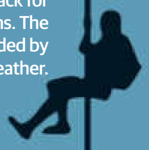
Climbers: Eric Shipton, Edmund Hillary, Tom Bourdillon, WH Murray, Mike Ward

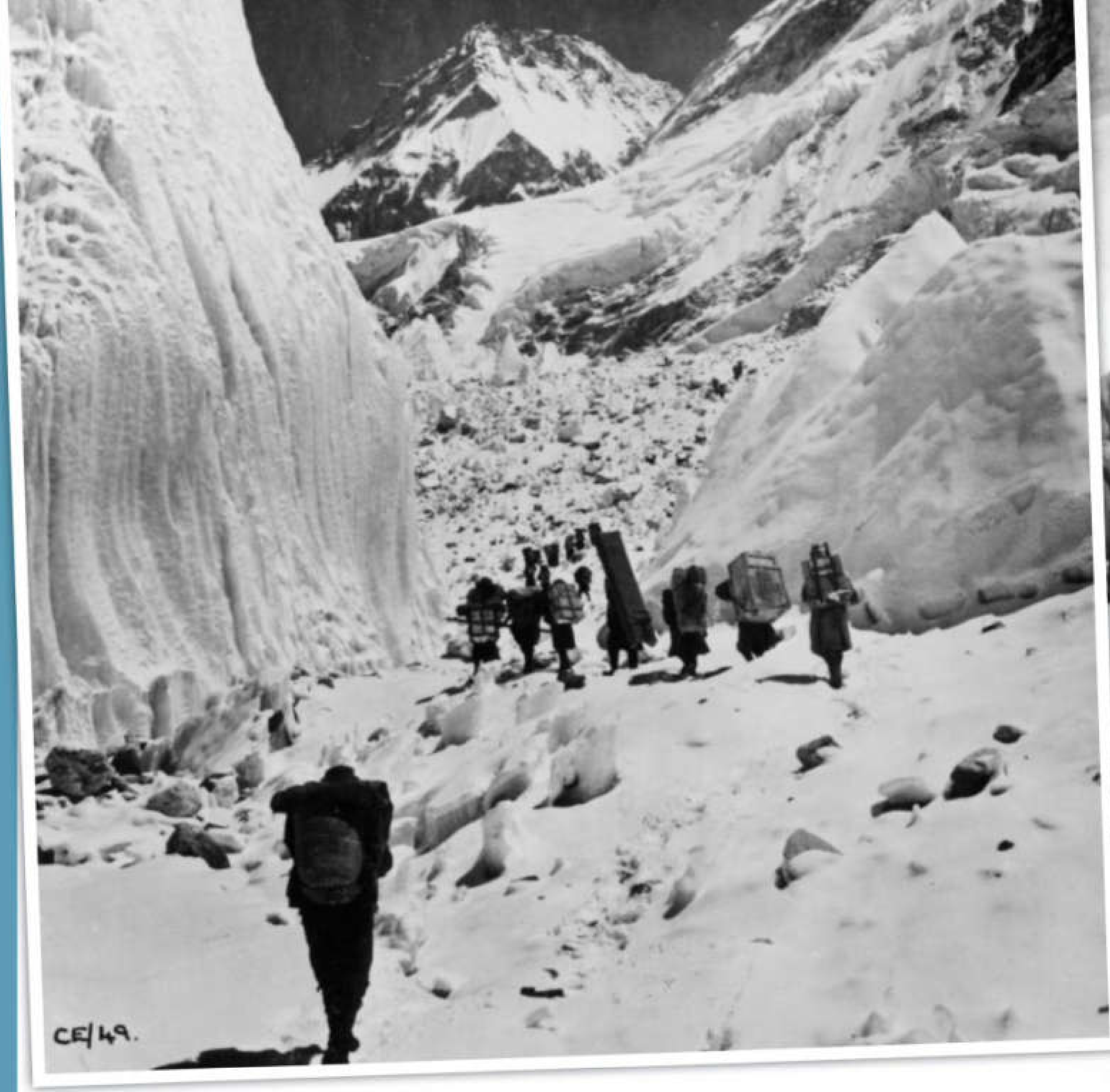
Why they failed: Another survey, exploring the potential new route via the Western Cwm. An impassable crevasse ended the progress.

1952

Climbers: Edouard Wyss-Dunant, Raymond Lambert, Tenzing Norgay, Rene Aubert, Leon Flory

Why they failed: Actually two climbs. The first was reconnaissance and turned back for lack of provisions. The second was ended by bad weather.





"MOST OF THE PARTY RETURNED TO CAMP VII AT THE END OF THE ORDEAL, BUT HILLARY AND TENZING PUSHED ON"

The expedition on which Hillary and Tenzing made history was the ninth British attempt on Everest, and was led by the British Army Colonel John Hunt. Having received the Distinguished Service Order for his conduct as a lieutenant colonel during World War II, Hunt had taken up a position at the Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force, when he received the invitation from the Joint Himalayan Committee of the Alpine Club and the Royal Geographic Society.

His experience of military leadership coupled with his climbing credentials (he'd been part of a search for the Yeti in the Himalayas in 1937) made him an obvious choice, although some were surprised that he was chosen over and above Eric Shipton, who had led an unsuccessful climbing party on Cho Oyu the previous year. Many of Hunt's Everest climbers, including Hillary, were veterans of the Cho Oyu trip.

The team that Hunt ended up leading consisted of medical men Michael Ward, Griffith Pugh and Charles Evans (also deputy expedition leader); scientists George Band, Tom Bourdillon and Michael Westmacott; photographers Tom Stobart and Alfred Gregory; journalist James Morris; organising secretary Charles Wylie; and two schoolmasters in George Lowe and Wilfred Noyce. They were also accompanied by 362 porters including 20 Sherpa guides - experts on the mountain terrain of Tibet and Nepal - carrying 10,000 pounds of baggage. And of course, there was Hillary himself.

Hillary, a native of Auckland, New Zealand, had been an enthusiastic climber since he was a teenager, undertaking his first major climb in 1939, aged 20, when he reached the summit of the 1,933-metre Mount Ollivier in New Zealand. He had served as a navigator in the Royal New Zealand Air Force during World War II, despite his pacifist leanings, and had returned to mountaineering post war. He reached the highest peak of New Zealand's Mount Cooke (1,909 metres) in 1948 and was on a trip with his fellow New Zealander Lowe in the Alps when both learned they had been selected for Everest. With monsoons making Everest impossible for much of the year, a window of relative calm in April and May 1953 was chosen.

The expedition set up its base camp in March, and while work was ongoing, Hillary moved off alone to survey the Khumbu Icefall ahead. The journey of just a few hundred feet took him more than an hour. What he saw was, to say the least, disheartening: a thousand times worse than what he had been expecting.

As Hillary's team began the trek in earnest, Westmacott laboriously carved a series of rough steps up the ice walls above a dizzying crevasse. The feature was named 'Mike's Horror'. Further landmarks on the treacherous path would be dubbed 'The Ghastly Crevasse', 'The Nutcracker', 'Hellfire Alley' and 'Atom Bomb Area', where Hillary almost suffered a catastrophic fall when a ledge gave way, sending him plummeting downwards. Tenzing hauled him back to safety and all was well, although Hillary's diary reveals he was understandably shaken: "I'm holding on alright – but some cracks, pretty strongly sometimes. Certainly this thing we are doing is a great test of faith."

Eventually they reached a rickety rope bridge over a terrifying icy abyss: a relic of the Swiss expedition. The Sherpas had been uncomfortably carrying aluminium builders' ladders with them up until this point, and their purpose now became clear as they were bolted together until they made a structure long enough to cross the crevasse. Hillary was the first to crawl over and onto the next challenge: the Western Cwm, a more-or-less flat valley, named in 1921 by Mallory and also sometimes known as The Valley of Silence.

The Cwm was steeper than the party had expected, but must still have seemed like a welcome relief after the Icefall. There was a further treat in store too, when Hillary and Tenzing found a leftover stash of the Swiss expedition's food including cheese, bacon, porridge and jam. Nobody ate British army rations that night. They had already been on the ice for nearly a month.

Hillary's next target was the Lhotse Face, a 1,125-metre ice wall where Bourdillon's newly designed oxygen tanks would be put to their first real test. The bottom is at 6,605 metres, where it's hard enough to breathe already. The exertion of the climb and the lack of oxygen at the top make hypoxia (oxygen starvation), mountain sickness and cerebral and pulmonary oedema (fluid on the brain or in the lungs) an ever-present risk. Wyss-Dunant called it 'The Death Zone'.

Once again Hillary and Tenzing took the lead, forging the 'path' to South Col, the pass between Lhotse and Everest itself, hacking out extra footholds for the men braving the punishing conditions behind them, several of whom were Sherpas carrying 30-pound packs. When one Sherpa felt he couldn't go on, Wylie took his pack for him. Wylie's oxygen ran out near the top, and in an incredible feat, he made the final push, still with pack, to the apex unaided. The groundwork for the attempt at the summit laid, most of the party returned to camp VII at the end of the ordeal, but Hillary and Tenzing pushed on to establish their

1953 EVEREST TEAM

The hardy team that accompanied Edmund Hillary to the top of the world

John Hunt

Expedition leader

Hunt got to know the Alps and Himalayas early in life. After World War II, he joined the Supreme Headquarters Allied Expeditionary Force, where he was invited to lead the 1953 expedition.

Tenzing Norgay

Guide/mountaineer

A Sherpa born in north-eastern Nepal, Tenzing toyed with becoming a Buddhist monk, before choosing a career as a mountaineer instead. He had previously been part of Shipton's Everest expedition in 1935.

George Lowe

Mountaineer

New Zealander Lowe began his working life as a teacher, and met Edmund Hillary while on a climbing holiday in the southern Alps.

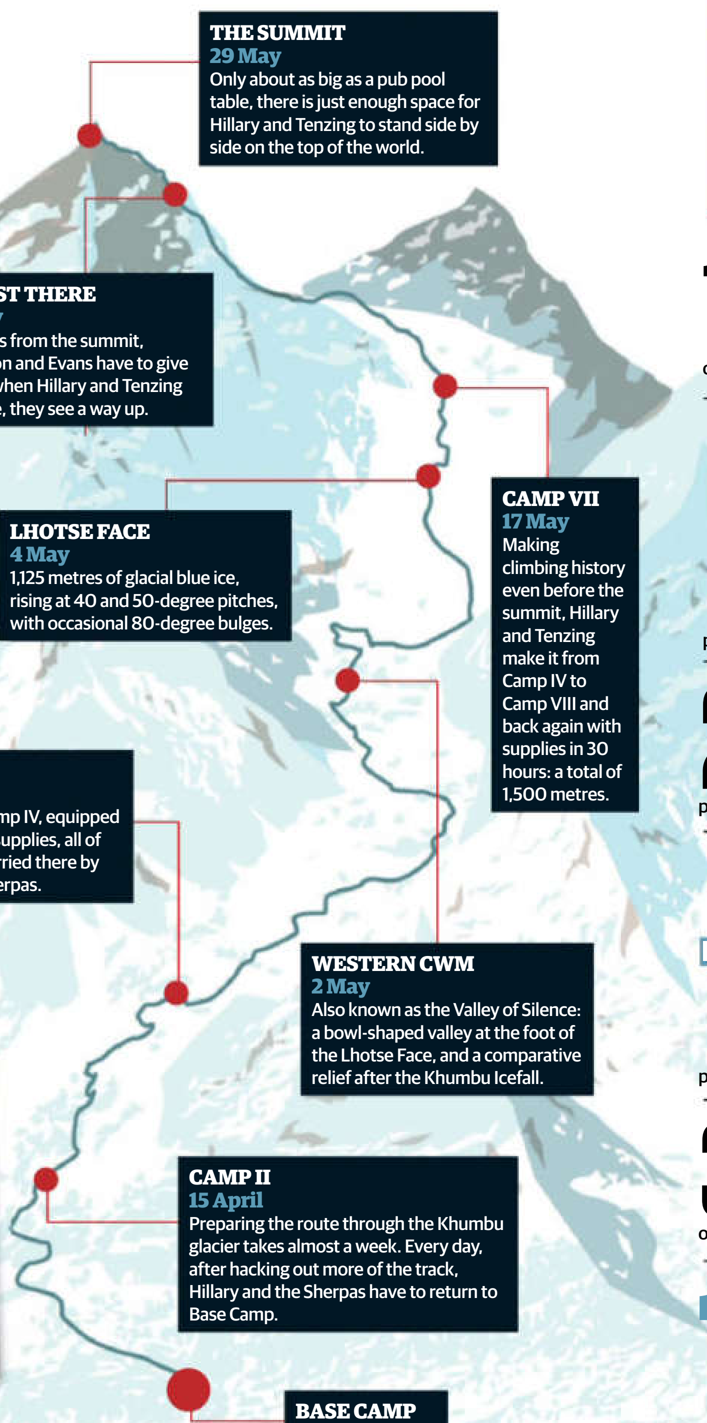
Alfred Gregory

Photographer/ mountaineer

Gregory grew up in Blackpool and began his climbing career in the Lake District and Scotland. His pictures from Everest and other expeditions were seen all over the world.

THE ROUTE TO THE TOP

It took Hillary, Tenzing and their team almost two months to complete the climb in 1953



THE SUMMIT
29 May
Only about as big as a pub pool table, there is just enough space for Hillary and Tenzing to stand side by side on the top of the world.

ALMOST THERE
26 May
91 metres from the summit, Bourdillon and Evans have to give up. But when Hillary and Tenzing get there, they see a way up.

LHOTSE FACE
4 May
1,125 metres of glacial blue ice, rising at 40 and 50-degree pitches, with occasional 80-degree bulges.

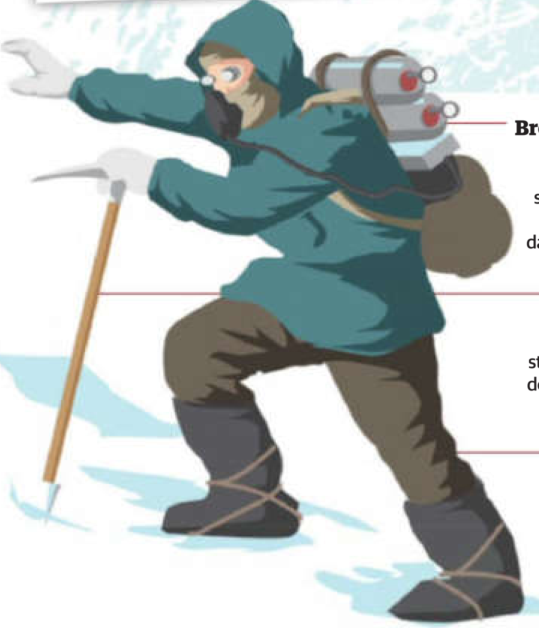
CAMP VII
17 May
Making climbing history even before the summit, Hillary and Tenzing make it from Camp IV to Camp VIII and back again with supplies in 30 hours: a total of 1,500 metres.

CAMP IV
24 April
The team reach Camp IV, equipped with three tons of supplies, all of which had to be carried there by the porters and Sherpas.

WESTERN CWM
2 May
Also known as the Valley of Silence: a bowl-shaped valley at the foot of the Lhotse Face, and a comparative relief after the Khumbu Icefall.

CAMP II
15 April
Preparing the route through the Khumbu glacier takes almost a week. Every day, after hacking out more of the track, Hillary and the Sherpas have to return to Base Camp.

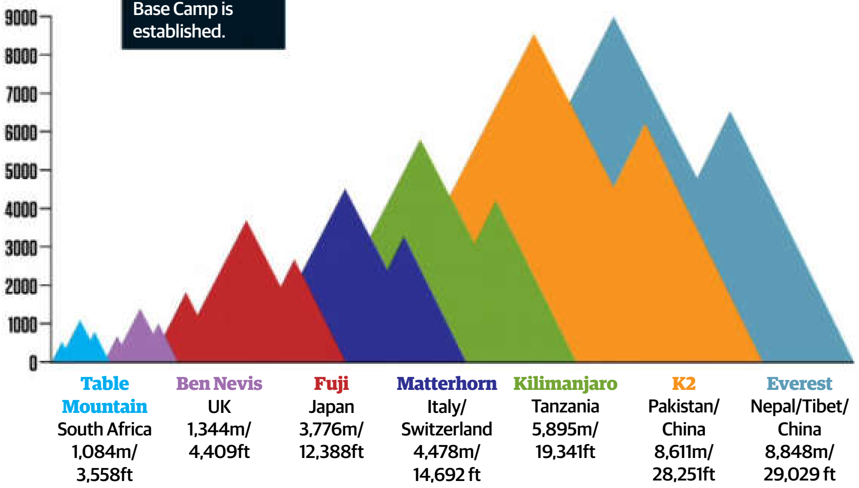
BASE CAMP
12 April
After 30 days of hard slog starting from Kathmandu, Base Camp is established.



Breathing apparatus
Hillary's team used a closed-circuit oxygen system, which excluded the thin air of their dangerous environment.

Ice axe
The all-purpose ice axe – for hacking paths and steps, and stopping your descent if you fell – had a forged steel head.

Boots
The team's boots were designed to be as light as possible, although heavy steel crampons added to the weight.



IN NUMBERS

10,000LB
of luggage carried in 1953 expedition

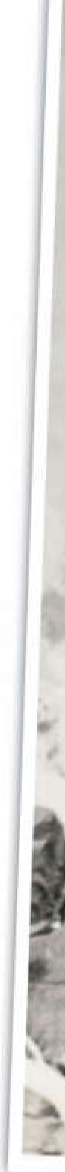
362
porters took part in 1953 expedition

200MPH
possible speed of wind on Everest

-80°C
possible temperature on Everest

33,000FT
of fixed rope is used each year on South Col

1970
was the first year that somebody skied down Everest



"HAD HE BEEN WRONG, THE RESULT WOULD HAVE BEEN A 3,000-METRE FALL TO SMASH ON THE GLACIER BELOW"

final camp, 460 metres further up on the summit ridge. After six weeks, the goal was in sight, but completion would require almost superhuman determination and a further few days battling largely uncharted territory. In a way, they were still only at the beginning.

Once everyone had made it to the ridge camp, it was, for a change, Bourdillon and Evans who made the first painful strike for the final South Summit approach, identifying the likely routes that would later benefit Hillary and Tenzing. They began by managing an extraordinary 300 metres an hour, but ended up battling with their malfunctioning oxygen canisters (Evans told Bourdillon of a sudden choking sensation during which he felt like he was about to die. "I expect you were," was the nonchalant reply). A broken canister turned out to be the culprit, and while Evans, like Wylie, managed to carry on for a while, ultimately they had to turn back, within 100 metres of the summit. The journey back down was almost no easier than the ascent: Bourdillon lost his footing, sliding into Evans, and both men began hurtling out of control down the mountain. Both survived, but it was an unorthodox way back to camp. Hillary later admitted feeling guilty at a sense of schadenfreude at their failure. He still had the opportunity to be the first man to conquer the mountain.

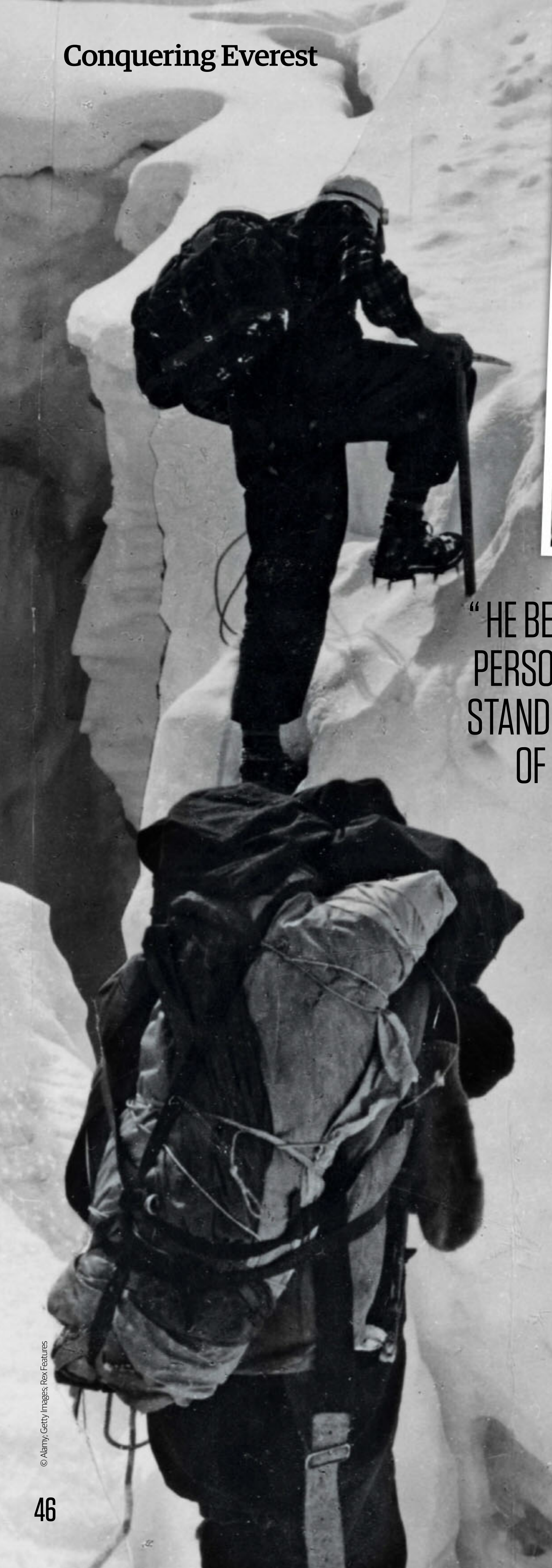
That opportunity came on the morning of 27 May, the beginning of 48 hours that would cement Hillary's place in history. Tenzing too was well aware of the importance of the hours ahead, and the pair set off into the howling winds with Lowe, Gregory and the Sherpa Ang Nyima at 8.45am. They made steady progress up the South-East Ridge, but at 2.30pm, Lowe, Gregory and Nyima, exhausted, opted to turn back, leaving Hillary and Tenzing alone above the clouds. Camping for the night, Hillary made the peculiar mistake of taking his boots off. In the morning they were frozen solid and he had to 'cook' them on his Primus stove to get them on again.

After a feast of lemon juice and sardines, the pair set off at 6.30am for the final 400 vertical metres. Tenzing occasionally sank waist-deep into the snow, the pair were forced to meticulously clear loose rocks one by one and there was the constant threat of avalanche, but by 9am, the going was slightly easier. Then, at 8,809 metres, Hillary saw a way to the top: incredibly dangerous, but

EXPERT OPINION

Sir Chris Bonington CVO CBE DL is a British mountaineer who summited Everest in 1985. He also completed the first British ascent of the North Wall of the Eiger in 1962 and the first ever ascent of the South Face of Annapurna in 1970, among many other achievements.

Ed Hillary was successful in reaching the top in 1953 because the Swiss expedition the previous year had very nearly made it when Raymond Lambert and Tenzing reached a point only 237 metres from the summit. Only the last part of Hillary and Tenzing's climb was on unknown ground. The outstanding leadership and superb logistics of the leader, Colonel John Hunt, also made a big contribution, as did the support of the rest of the team who put in the route up to the South Col. Nonetheless, it was a magnificent piece of climbing by the summit pair on the day.



© Alamy; Getty Images; Rex Features

> “HE BECAME THE FIRST PERSON IN HISTORY TO STAND ON THE SUMMIT OF EVEREST AND AT BOTH POLES”

possible. A cornice of ice on the Kangshung Face, already beginning to detach, looked like it might take his weight and allow a wriggle to the top. Had he been wrong, the result would have been a 3,000-metre fall to smash on the glacier below. He wasn’t. Hillary set foot on the summit of Everest at 11.30am, joined shortly thereafter by Tenzing. It was just big enough for the two of them to stand side by side. In an unusual display of emotion, the pair took off their oxygen masks and hugged. They planted some flags, buried some ‘offerings’ – Tenzing some sweets and a pencil belonging to his daughter, Hillary a small cross – took some photographs and, after just 18 minutes, began their quick but scary descent. They arrived back at the South Col camp at 4pm. “Well,” Hillary said to Lowe on arrival, “we knocked the bastard off.”

News of the triumph reached Britain on the same day as Elizabeth II’s coronation on 2 June. Copious awards and honours awaited the whole team in the aftermath of the momentous event, from the governments of Britain, India and Tibet.

In the years afterwards, Tenzing became the first director of field training at the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute in Darjeeling, and went on to found his own trekking company, Tenzing Norgay Adventures.

Hillary, meanwhile, continued his own adventuring, reaching the South Pole on foot in 1959, and the North Pole by plane in 1985. He became the first person in history to stand on the summit of Everest and at both poles. He also devoted his life to philanthropy, in particular to helping the Sherpa people, building schools and hospitals in Nepal through the foundation of the Himalayan Trust.

While on top of Everest, he said later, “I looked across the valley towards the great peak Makalu and mentally worked out a route about how it could be climbed… It showed me that even though I was standing on top of the world, it wasn’t the end of everything – I was still looking beyond to other interesting challenges.”

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Time Traveller's Handbook

TENOCHTITLAN

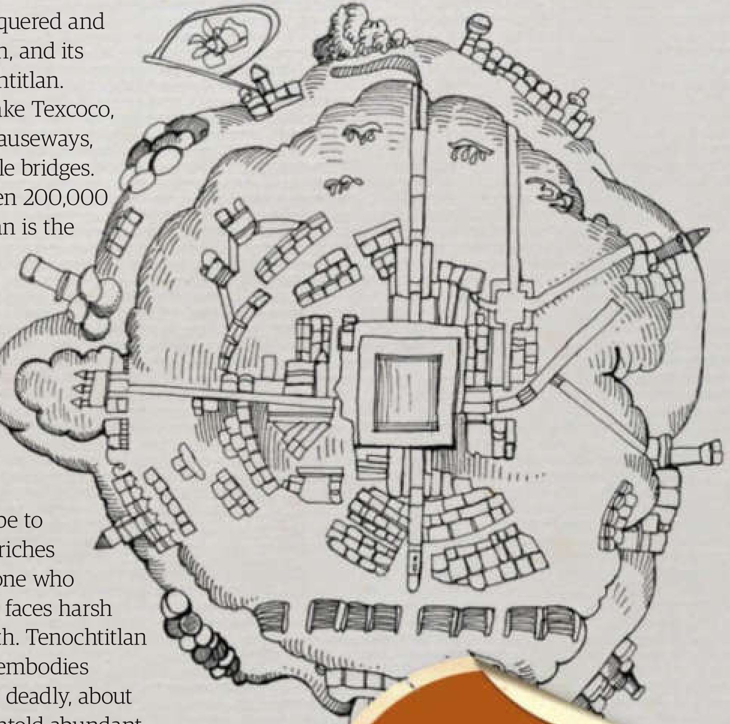
In the late 15th century, the Aztec Empire is the largest it has ever been. Through warfare, lands across North America have been conquered and claimed by the civilisation, and its glittering capital is Tenochtitlan. Located on an island in lake Texcoco, Tenochtitlan is a city of causeways, lakes, canals and moveable bridges. With a population between 200,000 and 400,000, Tenochtitlan is the bustling hub of the Aztec empire, astonishing to behold in the gleaming Mexican sun. However, Tenochtitlan is also a place constricted and controlled by harsh class divides. Only valiant warriors or those born into nobility can hope to benefit from the greatest riches the city has to offer. Anyone who dares to forget their place faces harsh punishment, or even death. Tenochtitlan is far more than a city; it embodies everything great, but also deadly, about the Aztec Empire, with untold abundant riches waiting around one corner, and danger and destruction around another.

WHERE TO STAY

Tenochtitlan has a variety of different residences, from the stone houses of the nobility to the mud huts of the ordinary people. However, if you really want to experience splendour, the palace complex is the place to stay. Moctezuma II is so strict about access to his palaces that commoners are not even allowed to work inside. The complex boasts an array of luxurious features, and even houses several zoos, a botanical garden and an aquarium. If you can't sweet-talk your way in, you could always stay in the palace of Moctezuma I. It has 100 rooms, each with its own bath, and is designed to house lords and ambassadors of the city's allies.

FIG.01

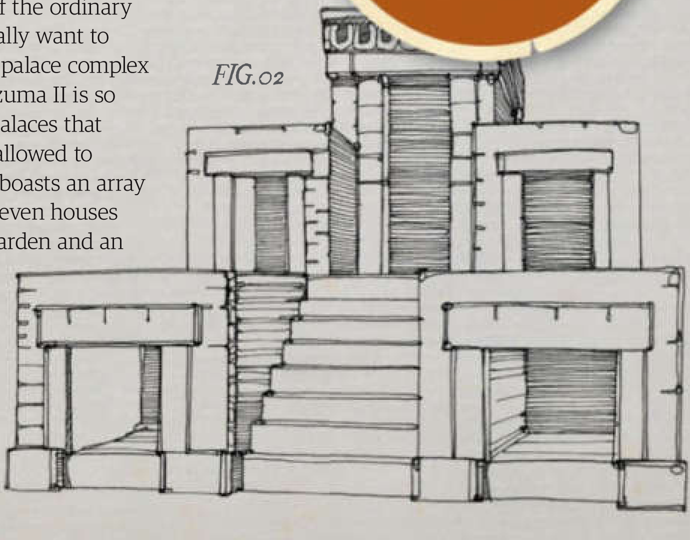
Aztec capital 14th-16th century



Did You Know?

Education for Aztec children is compulsory regardless of class or gender

FIG.02



Dos & Don'ts

☑ **Keep up your personal hygiene.** The residents of Tenochtitlan like to bathe at least twice a day, while Moctezuma II takes four baths every day.

☑ **Learn Aztec culture.** The Aztecs have very specific sayings, called huehuetlatolli, which embody their ideals, and would be wise to stick by if you want to fit in.

☑ **Visit the market in nearby Tlateloco.** With 60,000 traders, it is a plethora of food and goods, and will provide you with everything you need to survive.

☑ **Invest in a canoe.** You'll need it to navigate the canals of the city, and they're so vital that most homes have one.

☒ **Stick around too long.** You don't want to be here when the Spanish captain Cortez turns up and sacks the city, leaving famine and devastation in his wake.

☒ **Turn down a trip to the temazcal.** These sweat houses do wonders for healing various ailments, including soothing colds.

☒ **Break any laws.** Though the Europeans paint Aztecs as lawless savages, the city is controlled by a government with strict rules, resulting in a low crime rate.

☒ **Preach other religions.** All the inhabitants of the city follow the same polytheistic religion and are very serious about it, worshipping daily in the temple.

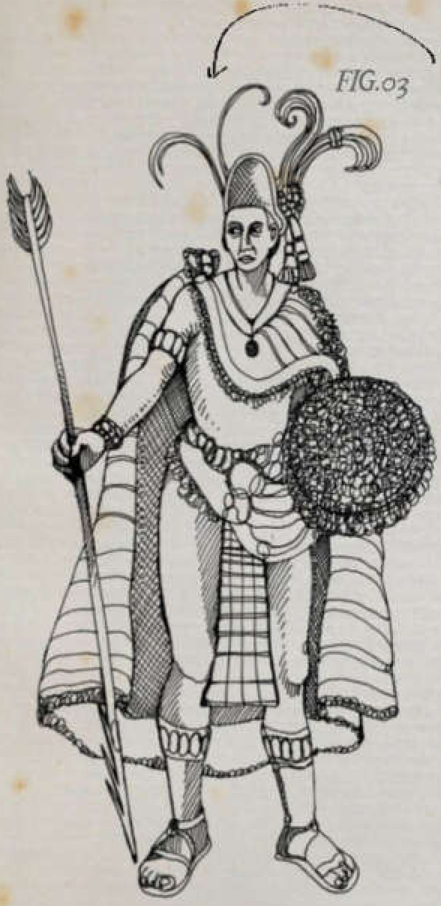


FIG.03

WHO TO BEFRIEND

Moctezuma II

It's always good to have friends in high places, and it doesn't get higher than the ruler. The Aztec society is defined by strict social divisions, with nobles enjoying privileges completely closed off to commoners. You want to make sure you stay on the top rung of society, and befriending the king will ensure that. Moctezuma II rules the biggest Aztec empire the world has ever seen. Although accounts differ, Moctezuma seems to be a man with a cheerful demeanour and a weakness for women, so it shouldn't be too difficult to win his favour.

Extra tip: Although some of their treatments are of dubious quality, Aztec doctors actually know a great deal about the human body. Aztec medical men boast an extensive inventory of hundreds of medicinal herbs, and Aztec treatments all have basis in research and experience.

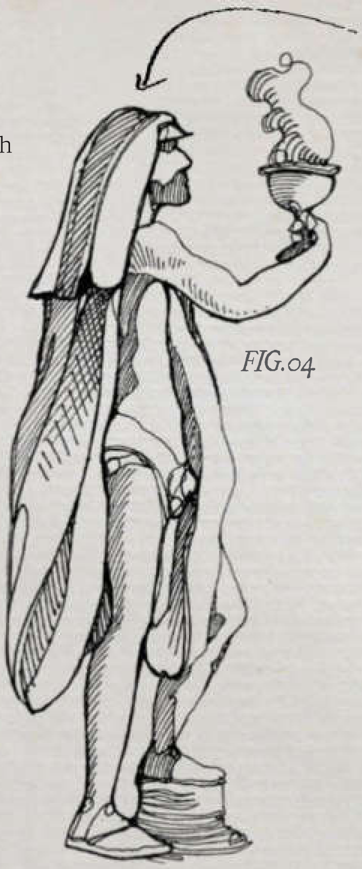


FIG.04

WHO TO AVOID

Aztec priests

There is a very grisly aspect of Aztec culture that you must be aware of in order to survive - human sacrifice. The Aztecs worship a vast array of gods that they offer sacrifices to, but Huitzilopochtli is one of the most prominent. It is believed that Huitzilopochtli needs regular nourishment in the form of human hearts, however, the Aztecs often source these hearts from outside their own society. This puts anyone visiting at risk. Those sacrificed to Huitzilopochtli are placed on a stone by a priest who then slices through their abdomen and tears out the still-beating heart. In some cases, the remains are then eaten. To avoid this fate, even if you're visiting on friendly terms, it's best to steer clear of the priests that conduct the sacrifices - just to be safe.

Helpful Skills

The Aztecs are an industrious society that value a wide range of skills; mastering them guarantees success

FIG.06

Navigation

The city is a labyrinth of causeways, bridges, canals and floating gardens divided into four zones and 20 districts. If you don't know your way around, you could get lost very quickly.

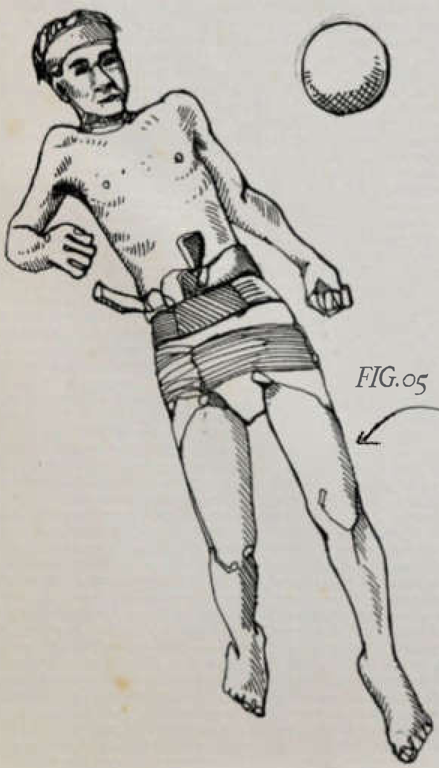


FIG.05

Ōllamalitzli

This ancient ball game is very important to Aztec culture, surrounded by rituals with huge religious significance. Proving your proficiency at it is sure to impress the locals.

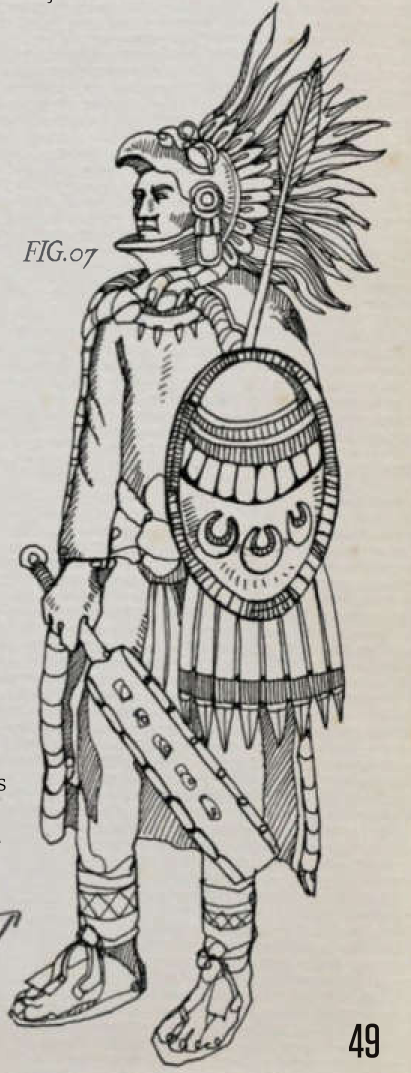
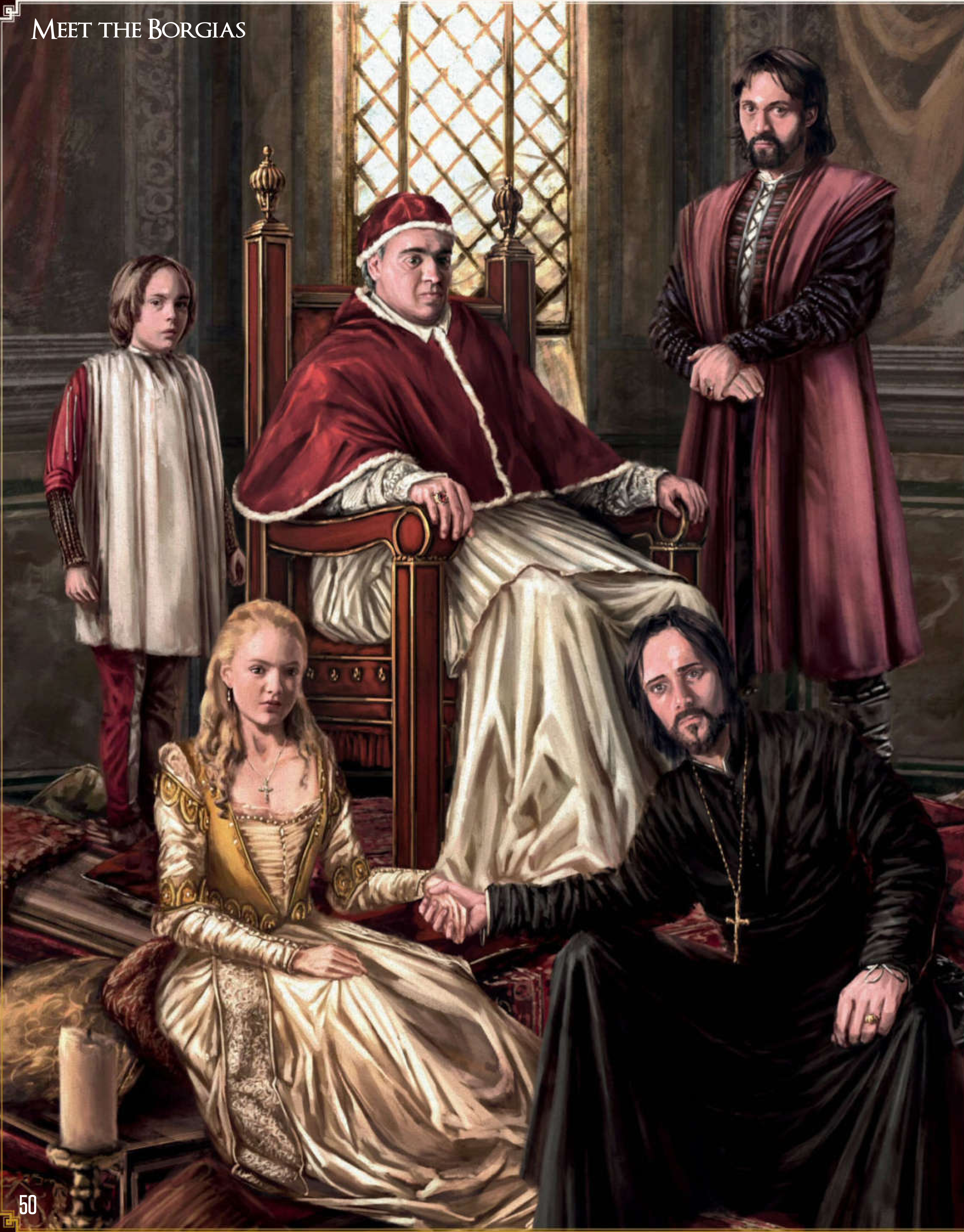


FIG.07

Combat

Although the Aztecs have great respect for education, different states dominate through warfare. Attack can come at any time, and you have to be prepared to defend yourself.



MEET THE BORGIAS

The real story behind the tales of incest, adultery and murder in the most infamous family of Renaissance Italy

Written by Frances White

The Renaissance is known as a period of great cultural and artistic reform. In the wake of the devastation of the Black Death, Europe began to transform from a Medieval land into a modern one. In Italy, the home of the movement, this change was witnessed on the very structures that filled its cities. Wood was replaced by glimmering marble, the elite enjoyed lavish banquets, and pomp and celebration overtook tradition. In this era of cultural and religious exploration, pilgrims flocked to Rome to glimpse the wonders of the ancient city, but they were shocked by what they discovered there.

Rome was in disorder. The holy city's underbelly was dark and dangerous, with robberies and murders a daily occurrence. Some popes had made efforts to reform and rebuild the city, but under the reign of Sixtus IV, Rome slunk back into a den of debauchery and decay, and this continued during the papacy of his successor, Innocent VIII.

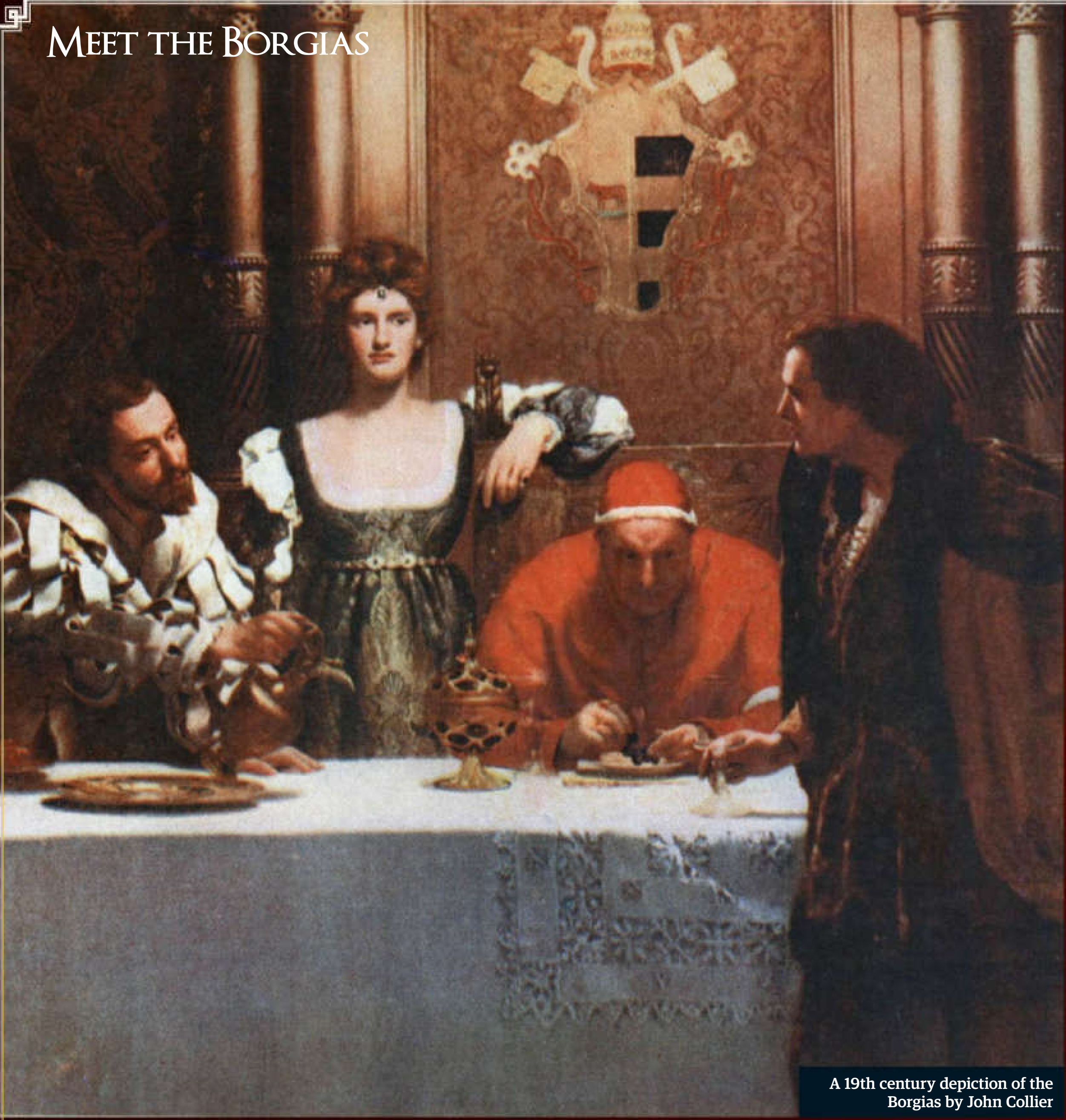
> "Money and power meant the difference between life and death"

In Innocent's final few months there had been more than 200 murders in the city. Cardinals, terrified of the world that lay outside their doors, barricaded themselves in their palaces and those that could afford it hired armed guards. Money and power meant the difference between life and death, and the pursuit of both became the goal of anyone who wished to survive.

When Pope Innocent VIII died on 25 July 1492, the cardinals met to elect a new pope. The city of Rome needed a young, energetic and ambitious leader who would return it to its former glory, and they chose Rodrigo Borgia. At his election to pope, Borgia stood as the best choice for Rome. He was related to a pope himself, had served loyally as a cardinal for nearly 36 years and was a skilled diplomat. However, some 500 years later, the name Borgia stands for violence, corruption and immorality. How did Rome's bright new hope for reform become one of history's most infamous figures?

Renaissance Italy was full of rich and powerful families who were willing to do anything to get on top, from the blackmailing Medici to the ruthless Sforza, but none have achieved a reputation as tainted as the Borgia. The house of Borgia's legacy is one that has seeped into paintings, novels and even TV Shows.

Rodrigo has been portrayed as the most callous and sly pope of all time, bribing his way to the top, and committing illicit affairs in the confines of his palace. His daughter, Lucrezia, is seen not only as a harlot but as a femme fatale, poisoning anyone who dared to cross her family. Worst of all is the legacy of Borgia's most famous son, Cesare - handsome and passionate, but also a murderous warlord with a terrifying temper, who killed even his own blood to claim ultimate power. The family is now known as the first organised crime family, who used the city of Rome as their playground. But is this portrayal realistic? Did such a corrupt family really claw their way to become head of the most powerful church in the world? Were the Borgias really that bad?



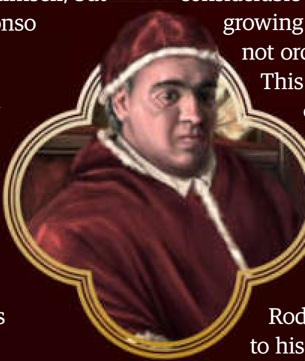
A 19th century depiction of the Borgias by John Collier

ILLUSTRATA

RODRIGO BORGIA

The Spaniard who bargained, bribed and schemed his way to the top

Rodrigo's rise to power was no accident. It had been planned, crafted and manufactured not only by himself, but also a previous pope, his uncle, Alfonso Borgia, known as Pope Callixtus III. Callixtus was pushing 80 when he became pope but he worked swiftly to ensure his young nephew was perfectly placed to continue his legacy. At 16, Rodrigo had already had been awarded a papal dispensation to hold ecclesiastical office, and aged 25, less than a year after his uncle became pope, he was made a cardinal.



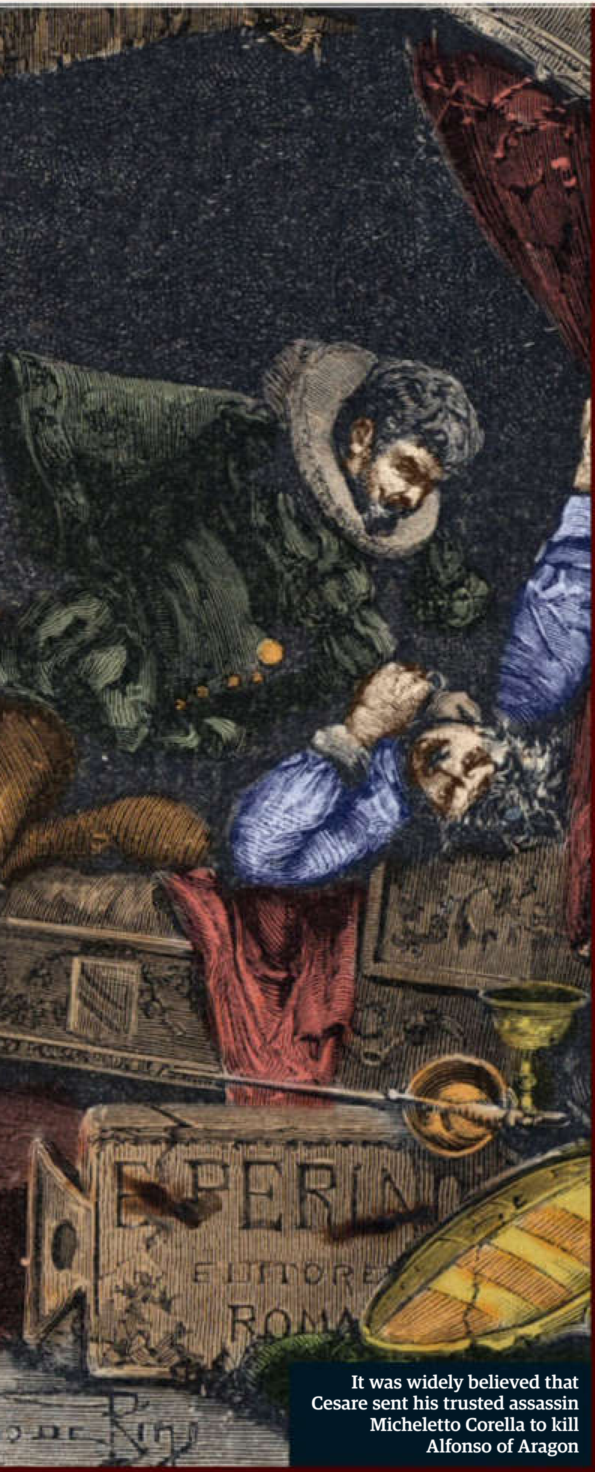
The promotions continued to come in thick and fast. In 1457, he became vice chancellor; a year later, administrator for the diocese of Valencia; then general-in-chief of the papal army.

When Callixtus died, Rodrigo waited patiently, serving his replacements loyally and letting his considerable wealth grow and grow. Despite his growing influence in the church, Rodrigo was not ordained to the priesthood until 1471. This fact alone sums up the future pope's outlook towards the church: it was not a calling, it was a career.

Although Rodrigo had managed to consolidate power thanks to his influential friends, he still had to work hard to keep it. Young, handsome and persuasive, Rodrigo had the ability to twist people to his favour, and had no problem waiving regulations to do so. He took bribes to approve marriages and annulments, and was even willing to forge documents if offered enough money. This allowed him the income to live the luxurious life he desired, but it was another excess that attracted criticism – women. The opposite sex was Rodrigo's weakness throughout his entire life, but it took him some years, and many harsh words from the pope, for him to refine the art of subtlety.

Rodrigo had a host of mistresses and reams of illegitimate children, but his most well known mistress was Vannozza dei Cattanei, who gave birth to his four most famous children: Cesare, Giovanni (know as Juan), Lucrezia and Gioffre. Although he was licentious and lustful, Rodrigo saw that all his illegitimate children were provided for, ensuring they married well and were granted ample lands. Although a cardinal having children today seems shocking, the fact that Rodrigo's children were accepted and became part of nobility indicates just how commonplace it was.

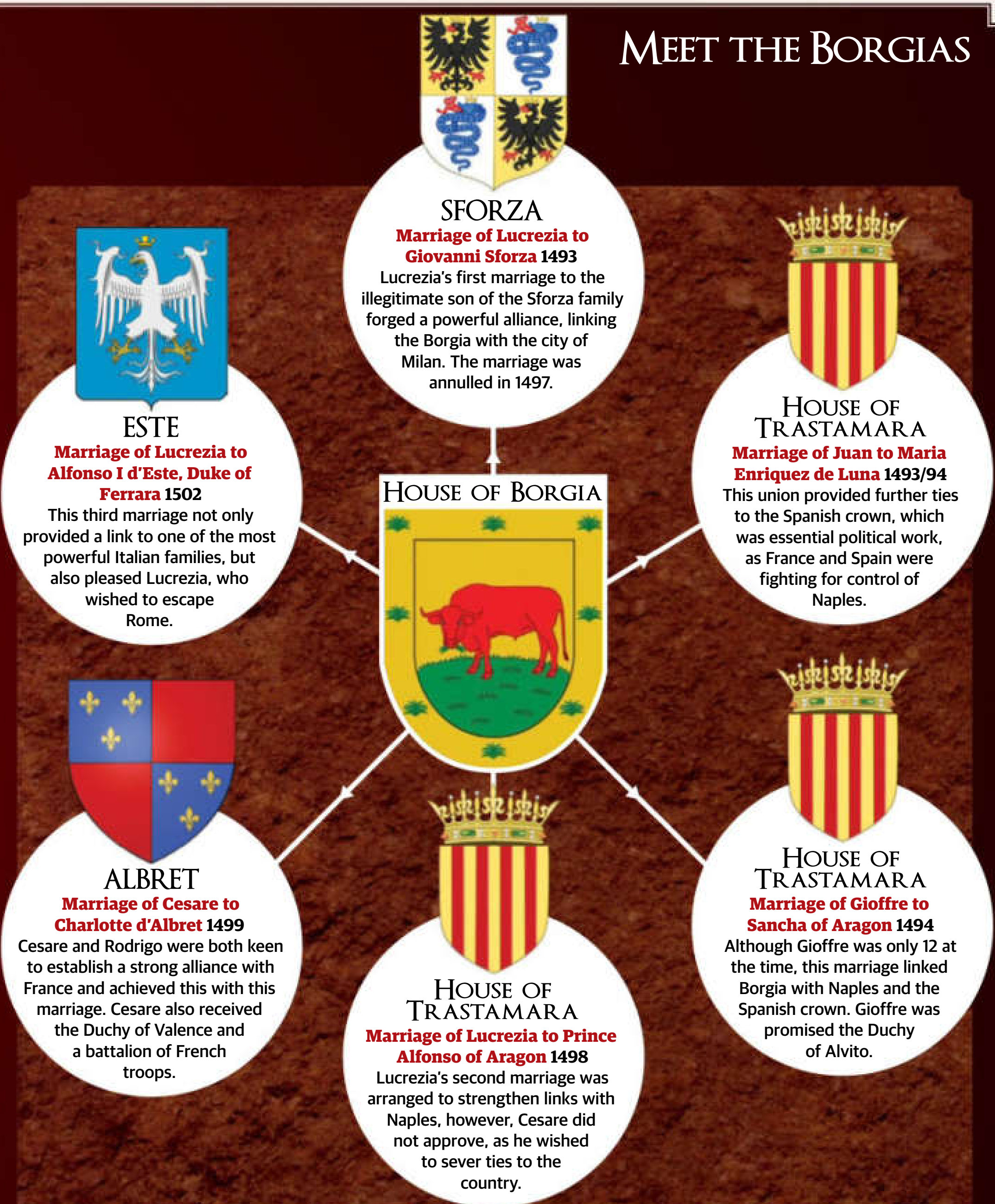
Although Pope Innocent VIII died on 25 July, the election of his replacement was postponed



It was widely believed that Cesare sent his trusted assassin Micheletto Corella to kill Alfonso of Aragon

THE POLITICAL WEB

Rodrigo knew his family couldn't stand strong alone, so formed powerful alliances with his children's marriages



HOUSE OF BORGIA

SFORZA

Marriage of Lucrezia to Giovanni Sforza 1493

Lucrezia's first marriage to the illegitimate son of the Sforza family forged a powerful alliance, linking the Borgia with the city of Milan. The marriage was annulled in 1497.

ESTE

Marriage of Lucrezia to Alfonso I d'Este, Duke of Ferrara 1502

This third marriage not only provided a link to one of the most powerful Italian families, but also pleased Lucrezia, who wished to escape Rome.

HOUSE OF TRASTAMARA

Marriage of Juan to Maria Enriquez de Luna 1493/94

This union provided further ties to the Spanish crown, which was essential political work, as France and Spain were fighting for control of Naples.

ALBRET

Marriage of Cesare to Charlotte d'Albret 1499

Cesare and Rodrigo were both keen to establish a strong alliance with France and achieved this with this marriage. Cesare also received the Duchy of Valence and a battalion of French troops.

HOUSE OF TRASTAMARA

Marriage of Lucrezia to Prince Alfonso of Aragon 1498

Lucrezia's second marriage was arranged to strengthen links with Naples, however, Cesare did not approve, as he wished to sever ties to the country.

HOUSE OF TRASTAMARA

Marriage of Gioffre to Sancha of Aragon 1494

Although Gioffre was only 12 at the time, this marriage linked Borgia with Naples and the Spanish crown. Gioffre was promised the Duchy of Alvito.

until 6 August. After Rodrigo was elected, rumours of bribery and blackmail immediately followed, and it is of no doubt that many of the votes were 'purchased'. Ascanio Sforza was gifted the office of vice chancellor and his household accepted a vast amount of Borgia silver for 'safe keeping'. Other votes he bought not in money, but in benefices, with many cardinals benefiting from Borgia's rise. However, Rodrigo was not alone in this. His major competitors were all working at the same game, bribing and making deals under the table; sometimes the potential popes were bidding against each other for a single vote. Bribery was commonplace, but Rodrigo was a very capable and perhaps the most qualified of all the candidates. He had done his time serving loyally as cardinal and had amassed a trusted circle of friends and advisers. His uncle had dealt the cards, but he had played the game perfectly.

The early criticism that Rodrigo attracted was likely for one reason: he was Spanish. Anti-Spanish sentiment was rampant in Italy, and anything from Spain was labelled brutal and oppressive. Rodrigo attempted to bolster his ancestry by claiming to be descended from the royal house of Aragon. Meanwhile, his enemies believed that the Borgias were converted Jews. It is likely that both of these claims were manufactured and unfounded. Despite the vicious rumours, Rodrigo's first action as pope was to clean up the city. He divided it into districts, appointed commissioners and punished murderers. As head of the city, he made efforts to appeal to all citizens, hosting grand feasts for the rich and the poor, reducing crime and restoring order. He also strengthened the city's fortifications and even created a naval fleet.

With all these actions, Rodrigo was not only building up the city he owned, but was also creating a stable base for his own dynasty to thrive. He used his power and influence to secure marriages for his children that would strengthen the Borgias' position in Italy and Spain. Far more a politician than a man of god, Rodrigo negotiated alliances with an array of influential families. When more promising prospects entered the picture, he simply annulled the marriages. With Rodrigo in the most powerful seat in the world, the dominance and legacy of the house of Borgia simply grew and grew.

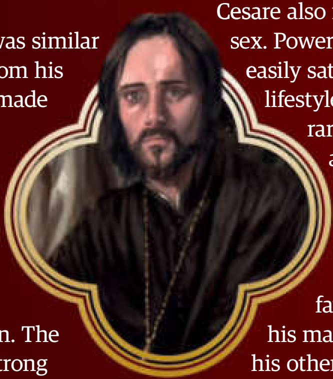
> "Rodrigo had the ability to twist people to his favour"

CESARE BORGIA

The dark prince ruled by ruthless ambition

Rodrigo may have set his family off down the path of domination, but it was his most infamous son, Cesare, that stained it with blood. We do not know if Cesare or Juan was older, but Cesare undoubtedly wished to claim his place as the true Borgia heir.

Cesare's experience growing up was similar to Rodrigo's. He benefited greatly from his father's powerful position and was made bishop of Pamplona aged just 15. Even in his youth, Cesare made friends that would aid him in his later pursuits for power. He began a friendship with a young man named Michelotto Corella, who was fated to become Cesare's most deadly and trusted personal assassin. The devotion between the two was so strong that Michelotto, even under torture, refused to reveal Cesare's secrets. Although today Cesare is viewed as a brutal warlord, he was already displaying the political acumen and people skills that were necessary for the success he desired.



Cesare continued his church 'career' and, like his father, became cardinal before he was even ordained as a priest. Aged approximately 18, he was among the youngest cardinals ever created, and there was considerable opposition to this. Cesare was already earning a fierce reputation, apparently taking pleasure in punishing those who crossed him. Along with his father's ambition, Cesare also inherited his lust for the fairer sex. Powerful, handsome and persuasive, he easily satisfied his desires and enjoyed the lifestyle his father's position provided. He rarely wore his cardinal vestments, and was less a man of god and more a personal adviser for his father, with their apartments connected by a private staircase.

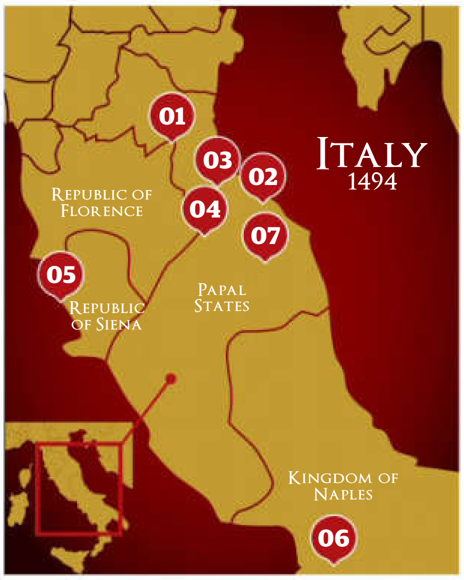
Although Cesare served as his father's adviser, Rodrigo placed his main hopes for the Borgia family in his other son, Juan. It wasn't until Juan's mysterious death, often attributed to Cesare, in 1497 that Cesare had the means to swap his papacy career for a military one. Cesare became the first person to resign as cardinal and instead became commander of the papal armies.

By now, Cesare's face was beginning to show the signs of syphilis - the disease had spread rapidly through Rome's 7,000 prostitutes and

Lucrezia's first marriage to Giovanni Sforza was annulled after just four years

CESARE'S MAP OF CONQUEST

Cesare used conquest to carve out a Borgia state in Italy and reign as prince



01 Imola and Forlì 1499

Rodrigo and Cesare begin their creation of a Borgia kingdom in Northern Italy by marching on these cities in Romagna. Cesare claims ownership of Imola from the headstrong Caterina Sforza and takes her prisoner.

02 Pesaro 1500

Cesare ousts his sister's former husband, Giovanni Sforza, from Pesaro. The town falls to Cesare's power without him having to strike a single blow.

03 Rimini 1500

Pandolfo Malatesta has ruled Rimini with terror and an iron fist, to the degree that when Cesare approaches the border, he immediately surrenders, knowing the people will soon turn on him.

04 Faenza 1501

Faenza surrenders when faced with the might of Cesare's forces; they hand over the lord Astorre II Manfredi. Shortly afterwards, the young man is found dead, likely on Cesare's orders.

05 Piombino 1501

Cesare lets his condottieri manage the siege of Piombino while he focuses his conquests elsewhere. The western seaport town soon falls under his control.

06 Capua 1501

Cesare commands French troops in his siege of Capua, part of the invasion of Naples. The city is stormed and Spanish power in Southern Italy falls with it.

07 Urbino and Camerino 1502

In the region of Marche on Italy's east coast, Cesare is yet again able to capture two towns. Urbino surrenders without a single shot being fired, and any opposition in Camerino is quickly eliminated.

it is not surprising that the licentious Cesare suffered from it. His once-handsome face was scarred and he often donned a black mask to hide his deformity. Perhaps due more to his violent and terrifying reputation than his facial scarring, Cesare struggled to obtain a wife, but eventually an alliance was formed with Charlotte d'Albret, a cousin of the French royal family. Although the pope was against this match, Cesare had begun to think beyond his father's ambitions. Rodrigo was ageing, and Cesare was aware that he could only exploit the benefits of papal power for so long. He intended to carve out his own state to rule before his father, along with his influence, vanished.

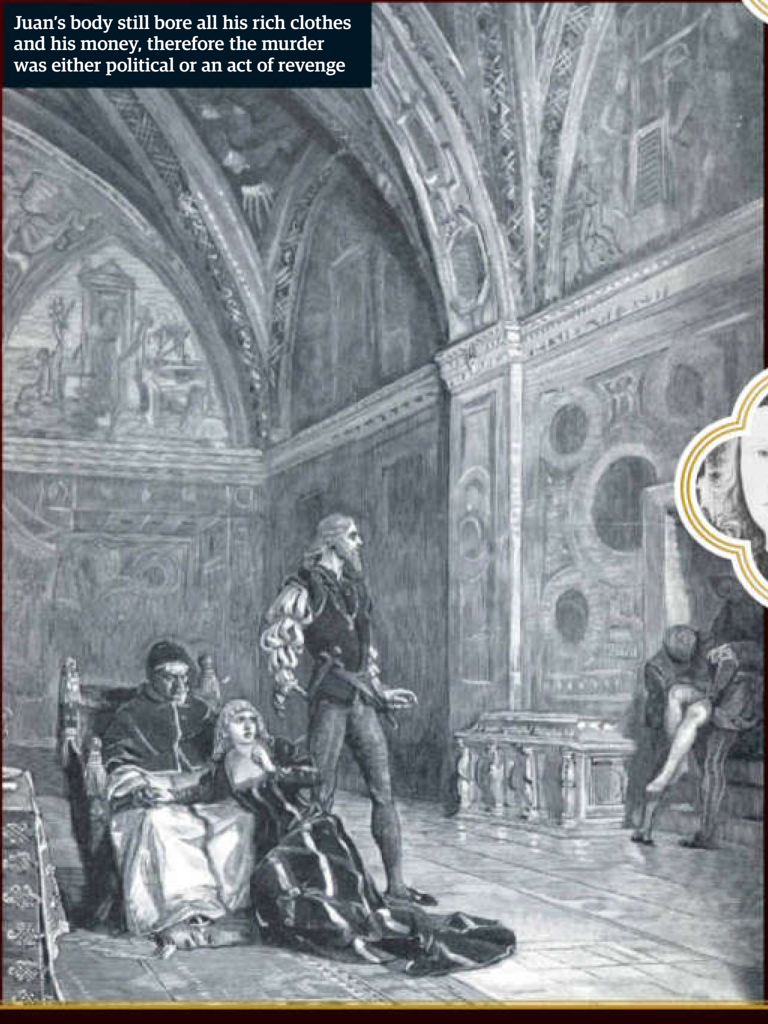
In the late 15th century, Italy was not a unified country. It contained many city-states that were constantly jostling for power. This was the perfect environment for a man with influence and political acumen to make his fortune and legacy, and Cesare set upon this with fervour. His allegiance with France, which had already set its sights on invading the northern regions of the country, would help him carve out the world he desired. As Cesare and his French army rode through the Alps towards the Duchy of Milan, cities simply fell around him. With such a powerful force, name and reputation, the warlord faced little resistance.

> "Cesare undoubtedly wished to claim his place as the true Borgia heir"

Cesare and Rodrigo used this opportunity to consolidate power in the Papal States spread throughout much of Italy.

When Cesare made his triumphant return to Rome, he dubbed himself the modern-day Caesar. As the French alliance turned its plans for attack towards Naples, he swiftly disposed of his one obstacle to the invasion - his sister's husband - then continued his conquest. Cities continued to bow before the warrior lord and he set his ambitions higher and higher. When cities resisted, such as in Capua, he led a ruthless assault, savagely murdering all the citizens. The fall of Naples to France was inevitable, and Cesare was dubbed Prince of Andia for his role.

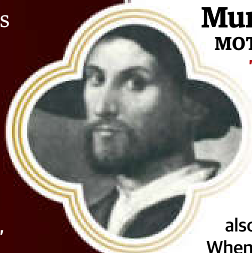
Although Cesare's campaigns had allowed his father to dominate the Italian Peninsula, their relationship was strained. The son was well and truly casting off the shackles of his father, publicly declaring himself an atheist. While Rodrigo had always presented a devoted outward appearance, that was the least of Cesare's concerns. His reputation as a brutal and godless warlord preceded him, and with papal power behind him, he was untouchable, as long as his father remained alive, that is.



Juan's body still bore all his rich clothes and his money, therefore the murder was either political or an act of revenge

CESARE ON TRIAL

Was Cesare a calculated killer, or the victim of vicious rumours?



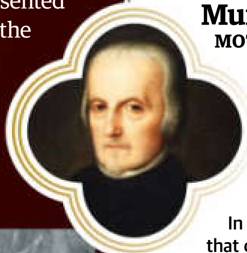
Murder of Juan Borgia

MOTIVATION: **TO ASSUME COMMAND OF THE PAPAL ARMIES**

Though Juan was not as politically or military minded as Cesare, Rodrigo rewarded him regardless. This upset Cesare, and it is highly likely that he was jealous when Juan was placed second in command of the papal armies. Both were also fighting for the attention of Gioffre's wife. When Juan was found dead in the Tiber River, many suspected Cesare, Rodrigo included. Rodrigo investigated the death, but in less than a month the subject was suddenly dropped – leading many to believe he had found the culprit: Cesare. However, the Borgias had many enemies, and vengeance by killing a relative was part of the culture in Italy at the time. That Juan's body had nine stab wounds not only suggests he was attacked by multiple assailants, but also seems a messy method of execution; unlike Cesare, who was a swift and efficient killer. It is plausible that Cesare was responsible, but it's impossible to pin the crime on him with certainty.

VERDICT: **NOT GUILTY**

* * *



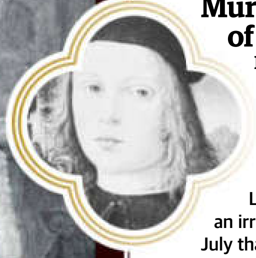
Murder of Pedro Calderon

MOTIVATION: **TO HIDE EVIDENCE OF LUCREZIA'S AFFAIR**

During the long period of annulment after Lucrezia's first marriage, there were many rumours that she was engaged in an affair with Pedro Calderon, Rodrigo's chamberlain. There was also speculation that Lucrezia was pregnant with his child. In February 1498, Pedro's body, along with that of one of Lucrezia's maids, was found in the Tiber River, and many claim this was Cesare's doing. If Lucrezia was having an affair, Cesare had good reason to get rid of the chamberlain, as if the truth emerged, it would badly damage the negotiations for Lucrezia's second marriage. Lucrezia's maid may have been killed to further hide the affair. Although these rumours are impossible to verify, a child was born to the Borgia household at this time. His parentage was claimed to be Rodrigo, then Cesare. Either way, the events surrounding his death are incredibly suspicious, and point to one suspect with a brutal streak and a lot to lose.

VERDICT: **GUILTY**

* * *



Murder of Prince Alfonso of Aragon

MOTIVATION: **TO STRENGTHEN TIES WITH FRANCE AND SEVER TIES WITH NAPLES**

By the summer of 1500, Cesare had strong ties with France and was involved in a French attack on Naples. However, Lucrezia's marriage to Prince Alfonso was an irritating obstacle to this French alliance. In July that year, Alfonso was attacked and stabbed as he left the Vatican Palace. Despite his wounds, the prince lived. The perpetrator was obvious; even the pope wrote that if Cesare had done it, Alfonso deserved it. On 18 August, a group of men led by Micheletto, Cesare's trusted assassin, entered the prince's chamber, arrested the envoys and sent Lucrezia away. Then, Alfonso was strangled. It was later claimed he had fallen out of bed and re-opened his wounds, but this lie was not believed. Although Alfonso did have a lot of enemies, Cesare had the means, motive and his favourite man on the job.

VERDICT: **GUILTY**

LUCREZIA BORGIA

Was the Borgia beauty a femme fatale or political pawn?

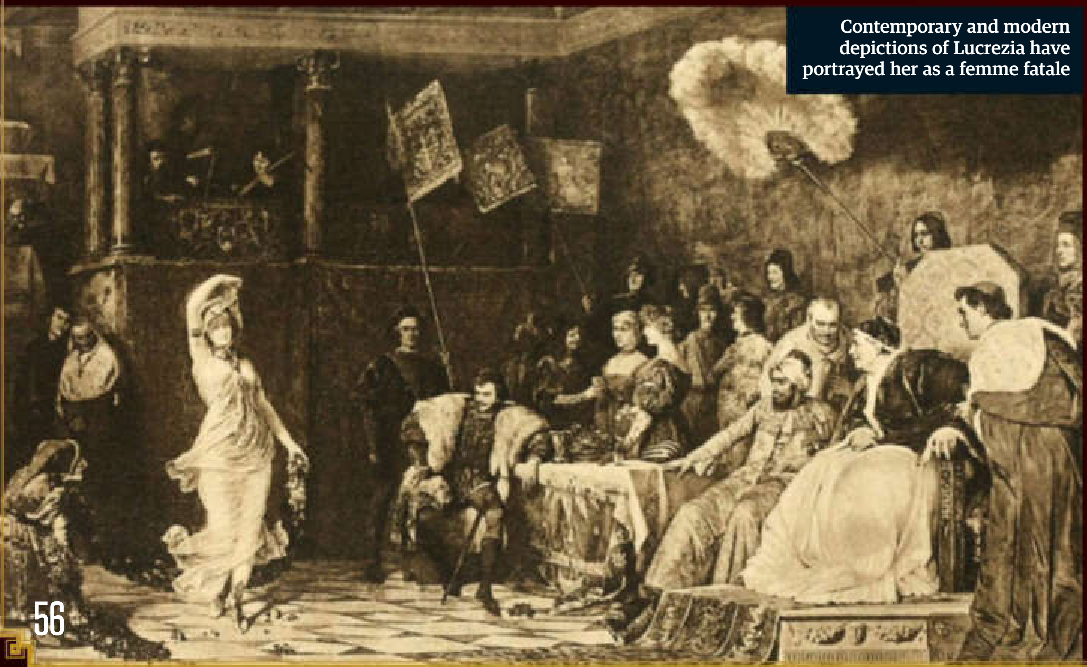
It is difficult to chip away the notorious reputation that surrounds the Borgia daughter to discover the true woman that lived and breathed. Lucrezia Borgia's association with her family's debauchery, treachery and brutality has inspired her portrayal in paintings, books and films to the degree that the myth and rumour have almost become fact.

Accounts of Lucrezia at the time describe her as a beautiful young woman with thick golden hair that reached her knees, a slender form, hazel eyes and an ample bosom. As a female of the Borgia house she was fated to be used by her father as a pawn in his political schemes. Rodrigo carefully evaluated every potential spouse for Lucrezia, drawing up marriage contracts and annulling them when a better option came along. She was first married aged just 13 to the 26-year-old widower Giovanni Sforza. Although they celebrated with a lavish feast, Rodrigo deliberately delayed the consummation of the marriage, as he was already fishing for a new spouse for his little girl. Within three years, the pope wanted the marriage over, claiming it was never consummated. Sforza vehemently denied this claim, but he was eventually pushed to annul the marriage. Throughout the trial he accused Lucrezia of multiple disgraces, most notably incest with Cesare and Rodrigo. Although such accusations were common at the time, the rumours stuck and Lucrezia's reputation was irrevocably tarnished.

> "For the first time, Lucrezia was starting to take control of her own destiny"

Soon rumours abounded about Lucrezia's extra-marital affairs during the divorce, and a possible love child hidden away in the Borgia palace. Her second union was quickly arranged before the stories could stick. She was married to the young and handsome Alfonso of Aragon, a match she was apparently very pleased with. The marriage was consummated and Lucrezia gave birth to a child. However, the Borgia daughter was not fated to remain happy for long. Her marriage to Alfonso got in the way of her brother's plans for an alliance with France, and he was promptly dealt with.

Lucrezia was devastated; after being used as a pawn by her brother and father her entire life, she began to stand up for herself. She took charge of her household and wrote coded letters to one of her father's reported mistresses in Rome. For the first time, Lucrezia was starting to take control of her own destiny, and her father took notice. When he left the Vatican, he placed Lucrezia in charge. Battling against Cesare's rebellious ambitious tendencies, it is likely that Rodrigo trusted his loyal daughter more than anyone. When Lucrezia married again, it was a match she was happy with; most importantly, it gave her power and took her out of Rome. Before she left to join her husband, she began to carve her own path, playing a role in her dowry negotiations and befriending her father in law. She went on to become a patron for the arts in Ferrara, but died aged 39 giving birth to a stillborn daughter.



Contemporary and modern depictions of Lucrezia have portrayed her as a femme fatale

TALES OF DEPRAVITY

If Lucrezia lived today, she would be a tabloid favourite

Incest in the House of god

In the midst of annulment proceedings, Lucrezia Borgia has been accused of engaging in *cardinal* relations with her brother, the infamous warlord Cesare Borgia. Giovanni Sforza has further claimed that the Borgia tart also engages in intercourse with her father the pope. Does this family's debauchery know no bounds?

Femme fatale claims her next victim

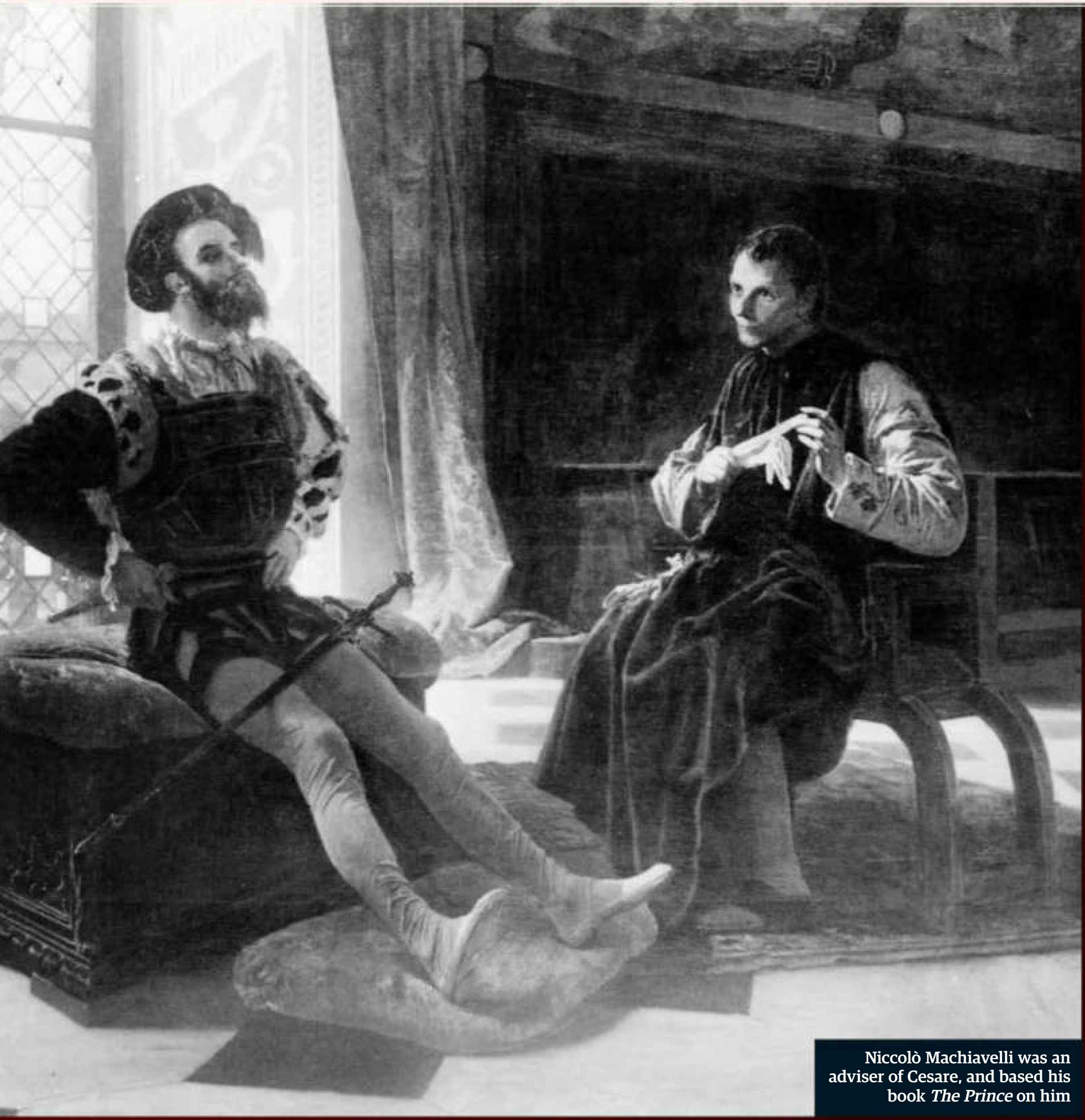
Lucrezia Borgia is reportedly killing off her family's enemies by a far subtler means than her brother's brutal assassin. The Borgia daughter is said to store poison in a specially designed ring that she then slips into her victims' drinks.

Newest Borgia love child is Lucrezia's

Our sources inform us that the mysterious Infans Romanus, the child that the Borgia family attempted to hide, is in fact Lucrezia's, and not of her husband. Due to the tart's string of affairs, the father is a mystery, but could be her murdered lover Perotto Calderon, her brother Cesare, or even the pope himself.

Banquet of chestnuts is secret Borgia orgy

50 prostitutes were seen entering Cesare Borgia's apartment in the Palazzo Apostolico. It is believed that the women of the night were there to entertain his guests including the pope and Lucrezia Borgia. Prizes were reportedly awarded to those who performed the act the most times with the courtesans.



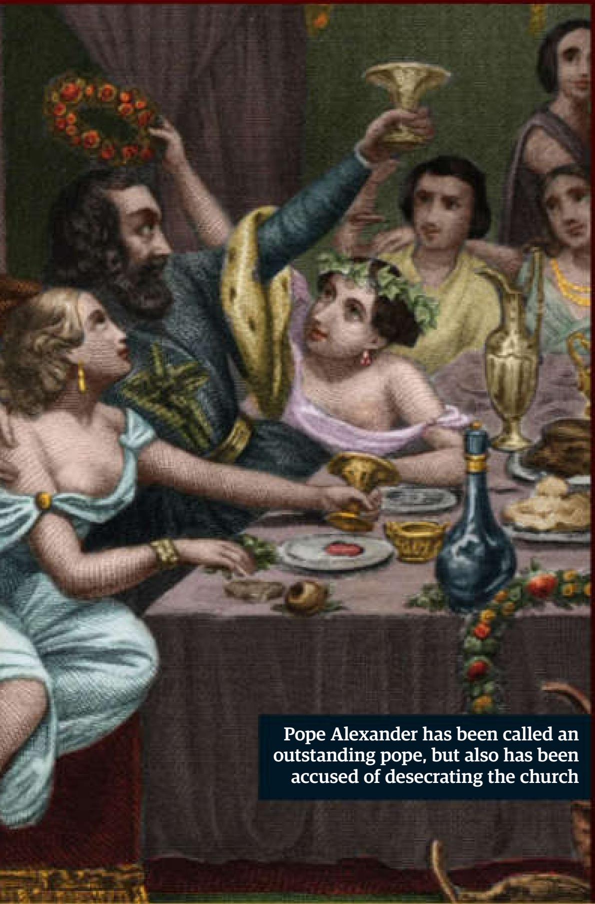
Niccolò Machiavelli was an adviser of Cesare, and based his book *The Prince* on him

EXPERT OPINION

Dr Mary Hollingsworth is the author of *The Borgias: History's Most Notorious Dynasty* (Quercus Editions, 2011). Her other books include *The Cardinal's Hat* (Prospect Books, 2004) and *Conclave* (Thistle Publishing 2013). She is currently finishing a book on the history of another notorious papal dynasty, the Medici.

Were the Borgias really as bad as people believe?'

To us, the Borgia name is a byword for brutality and corruption, but, in truth, the family was no more depraved than other famous papal dynasties of the period in the ruthlessness with which they pursued wealth and power. Renaissance society was notoriously violent and corrupt, and Rome, where everything from a modest administrative post to a cardinal's hat could be bought for the right price, was a magnet for the greedy and ambitious. Renaissance popes were rarely elected for their spiritual qualities. They were political leaders in an age when ostentation was the hallmark of prestige and they shamelessly promoted their nephews and children to positions of power and influence in the church and elsewhere. The fact that Rodrigo, Pope Alexander VI, had children was far from unique. Renaissance cardinals routinely ignored the rule of celibacy – and they all knew that there was a chapel in the basilica of Saint Peter's that was dedicated to Saint Petronilla, the daughter of the first pope.



Pope Alexander has been called an outstanding pope, but also has been accused of desecrating the church

GIOFFRE BORGIA

Was the young, unassuming son hiding a dark secret?

The youngest of Rodrigo's famous sons is quite often forgotten in lieu of his exciting and violent brothers, but Gioffre was a key player in the game of risk the Borgias were playing. He was used as a powerful negotiation piece and married to Sancha of Aragon when he was just 12 and she was 16. Despite their age difference, the union was consummated immediately, but Sancha's eyes soon travelled to his handsome and dashing brothers.

Gioffre was nothing like his siblings, and he was even less like his father, to the degree that Rodrigo began to doubt he was actually his son. Gioffre was not interested in politics, and he did not have the fire of his older brothers. In fact, he seemed very keen to distance himself from his dangerous family. Sancha's interest in his brothers, however, made that impossible.

Gioffre's wife had a terrible reputation in Rome, and with a mild-mannered 12-year-old for a husband, her eye soon wandered and she is thought to have had multiple lovers. She also allegedly engaged in affairs with both Juan and Cesare, and the fact that these liaisons coincided with Juan's murder has cast suspicion not only over Cesare, but Gioffre too.

The doubt hanging over Gioffre's involvement in the murder was so great that the pope was forced to publicly exonerate him of the crime. The identity of Juan's true murderer has never been found, and although he was far milder than his brothers, Gioffre was still a part of the Borgia family, and had a very good motive for getting rid of his brother. We may never know if the youngest Borgia brother finally snapped, but it makes for a compelling story.

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GREATEST BATTLES

BATTLE OF THE SOMME

NORTHERN FRANCE 1 JULY – 18 NOVEMBER 1916

Morning on another warm summer's day on Northern France's front line was suddenly interrupted by a surge of explosions that seemed to make the very air pulsate. Detonations of explosives planted deep beneath the earth were the signal that the attack on the German lines was to begin. With shrill whistle blasts all along the line, the British and French troops headed out into no man's land, and the Somme offensive began.

Initially planned solely as a French attack, the Somme offensive was months in the making, and was intended to be Field Marshal Douglas Haig's decisive blow to the German lines. Haig's aim was to force a rapid and devastating advance on the German lines, breaking through the deadlock of the trenches and splitting the enemy's front irreconcilably in two. Not only was it thought that this would disorganise the German troops, but it could also draw away crucial enemy troops from the French battling a German offensive in nearby Verdun.

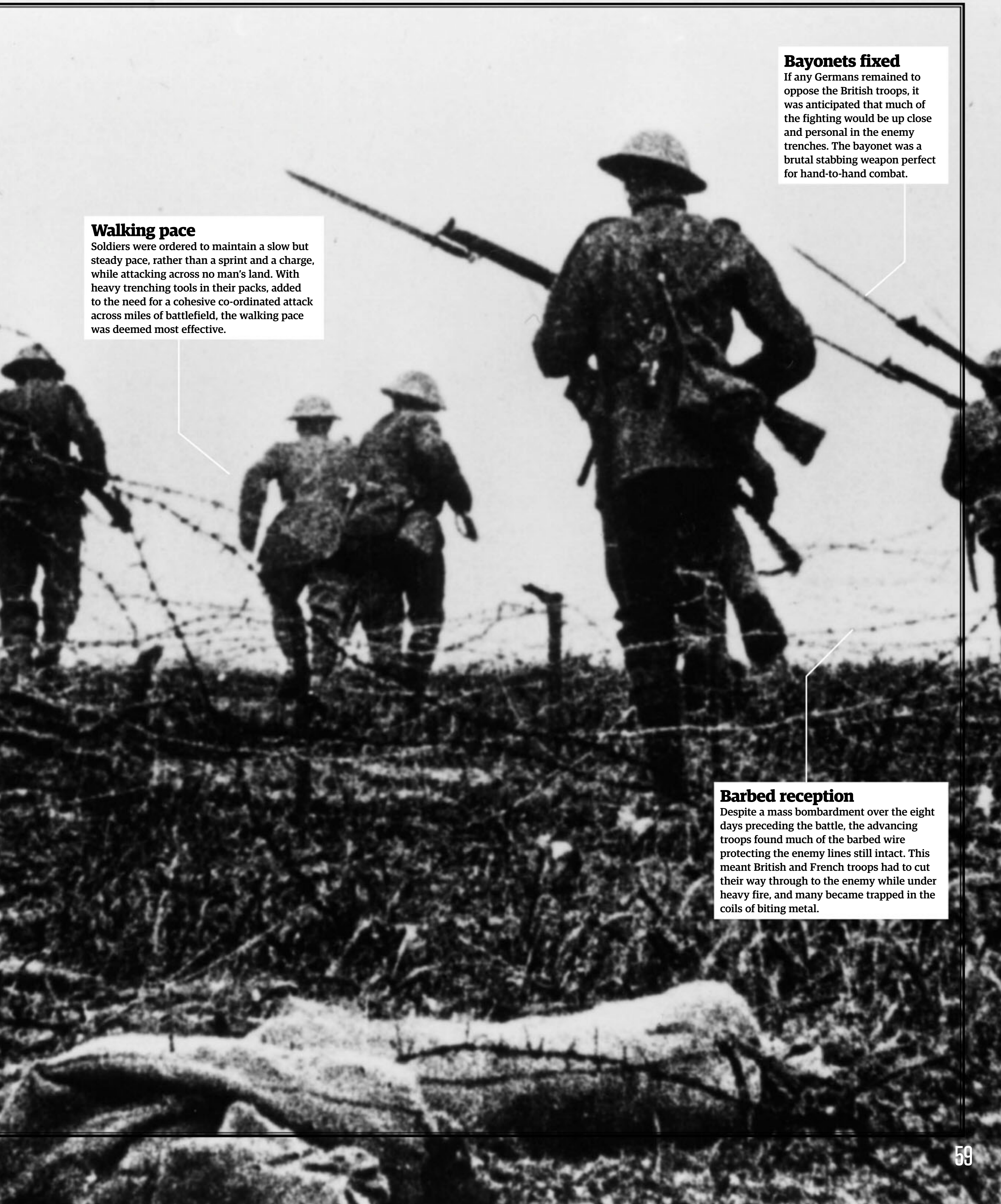
Haig devised his plans for the attack alongside General Sir Henry Rawlinson, who commanded the Fourth Army, which would form the bulk of the attack. Both men knew that the German defences would be well built up, so the miles of barbed wire, trench networks and bunker defences would be dealt with during an eight-day-long bombardment. It was thought this would be enough to cut the impassable wire, destroy the trench defences and crucially demoralise, if not completely obliterate, the German troops.

However, the German general Erich von Falkenhayn had made his order clear: not one foot of ground should be lost. This coupled with the substantial underground fortifications prepared over the preceding two years, using the chalky earth of the Somme region to burrow natural bunkers into the ground, meant the Germans were more than ready for the British. In fact, of the 1 million or more shells rained down across no man's land for eight days, many failed to even detonate.

When British and French troops ventured out towards the German lines at about 7.30am on 1 July, not only were the Germans waiting for them with machine guns ready, but miles and miles of wire still sat stuck in the mud in front of them. What was intended as a swift breakthrough and a hasty victory quickly turned into a battle of attrition. More than 20,000 British were killed on the first day, with many more wounded.

Over the following four months the men of the British and German Empires slogged it out doggedly. Every slight British gain was paid for with the lives of thousands, while even the first introduction of tanks to the battlefield in September was not enough to secure a firm and resounding victory. By mid-November, the last gasp of the British offensive resulted in the taking of Beaumont Hamel towards the left wing of the line – it had been one of Haig's day-one objectives.

With more than 1 million casualties from all sides, the Somme was a truly horrific loss to both armies, with only minimal successes. The objective of drawing German forces from the attack at Verdun had been achieved, but the essential and decisive breakthrough demanded by Haig had been a total failure. With December approaching, both sides were left with the winter to count their losses and dwell on one of the bloodiest and traumatic campaigns ever seen.



Bayonets fixed

If any Germans remained to oppose the British troops, it was anticipated that much of the fighting would be up close and personal in the enemy trenches. The bayonet was a brutal stabbing weapon perfect for hand-to-hand combat.

Walking pace

Soldiers were ordered to maintain a slow but steady pace, rather than a sprint and a charge, while attacking across no man's land. With heavy trenching tools in their packs, added to the need for a cohesive co-ordinated attack across miles of battlefield, the walking pace was deemed most effective.

Barbed reception

Despite a mass bombardment over the eight days preceding the battle, the advancing troops found much of the barbed wire protecting the enemy lines still intact. This meant British and French troops had to cut their way through to the enemy while under heavy fire, and many became trapped in the coils of biting metal.

British Empire

TROOPS FOURTH ARMY, C.300,000

ARTILLERY C.1,800

TANKS 22 (WORKING)

DOUGLAS HAIG

LEADER

The dogged field marshal had a plan for the Somme, and was determined to see it through.

Strengths His incorporation of new technology, as well as his formidable experience.

Weakness Persistence with clearly failing tactics, resulting in huge casualties.

MARK I TANK

KEY UNIT

These 'land ships' were a new and terrifying weapon on the battlefield.

Strengths Armour was impenetrable to normal gunfire, good for Allied morale.

Weakness Slow, unreliable and impossible to manoeuvre flexibly.

18-POUND ARTILLERY

KEY WEAPON

The workhorse of the British bombardment.

Strengths Very good range and precise accuracy.

Weakness Many of the shells fired did not detonate.

01 Heavy bombardment

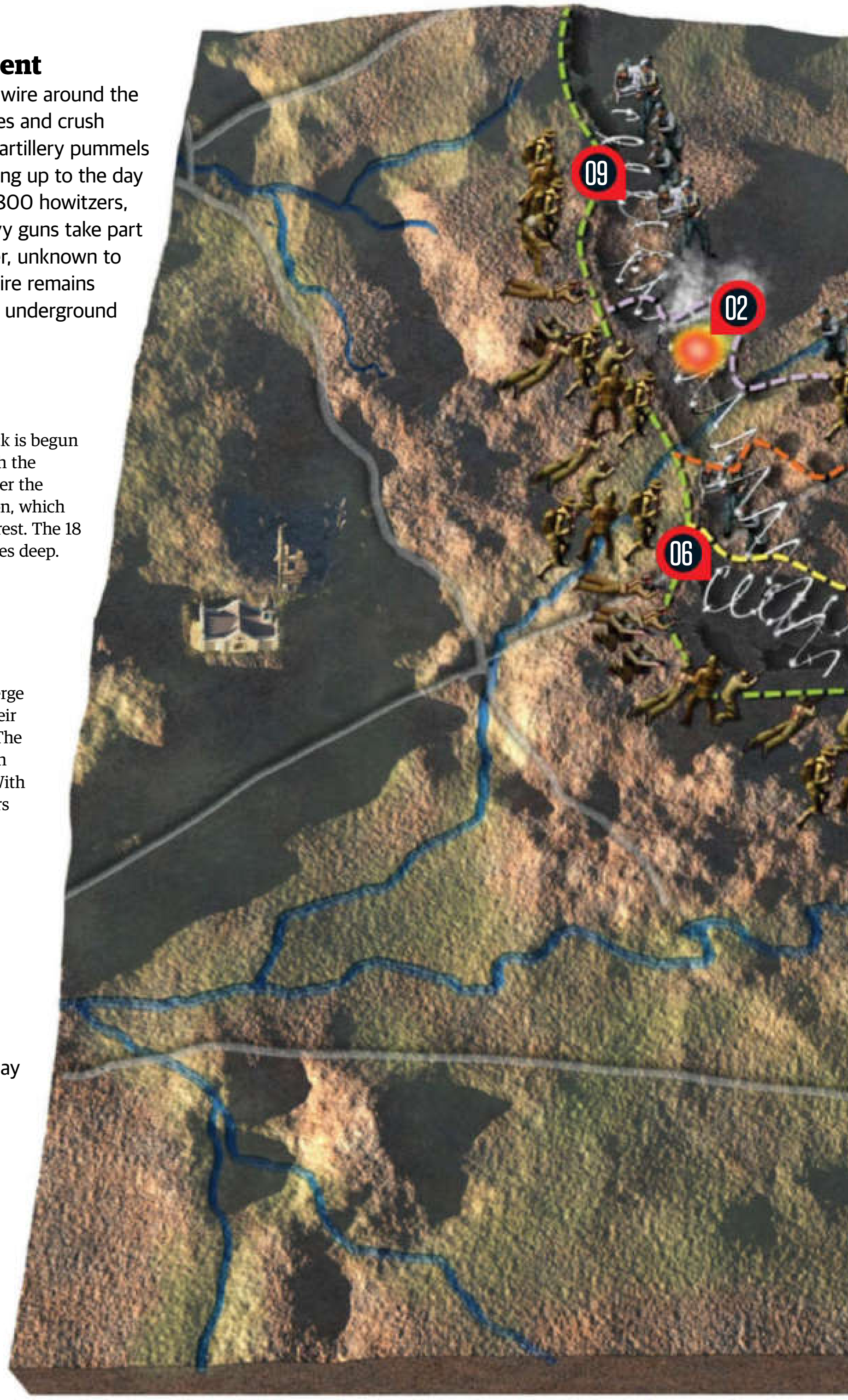
In order to cut the barbed wire around the defences, as well as destroy trenches and crush German morale, British and French artillery pummels the enemy lines for eight days leading up to the day of the main offensive. More than 1,800 howitzers, field guns, trench mortars and heavy guns take part in this huge bombardment, however, unknown to the generals, much of the enemy wire remains intact and the Germans simply wait underground for the bombing to cease.

02 Hawthorn Redoubt detonates

At about 7.30am on 1 July, the main attack is begun with a series of mine detonations beneath the German lines. The largest of these is under the Hawthorn Redoubt, a German fortification, which is triggered ten minutes earlier than the rest. The 18 tons of explosive creates a crater 30 metres deep.

03 The advance begins

The British troops advance out of the trenches carrying with them their rifles, boards to cross the German trenches and heavy trenching tools. The Germans emerge from their bunkers and open fire with their machine guns on the advancing troops. The British attack is stalled, while to the south the French advance is more successful. With their bombardment beginning mere hours before the attack, the Germans are less prepared for the French sector's attack.



04 Tragic slaughter

The British army suffers 58,000 casualties during the first day of the battle, for the most part cut down by the well-prepared German machine guns. Few gains are made on this day, but the French 6th Army manages to take some of its first objectives, having been more successful in its opening advance.

05 GERMAN TRENCHES TAKEN

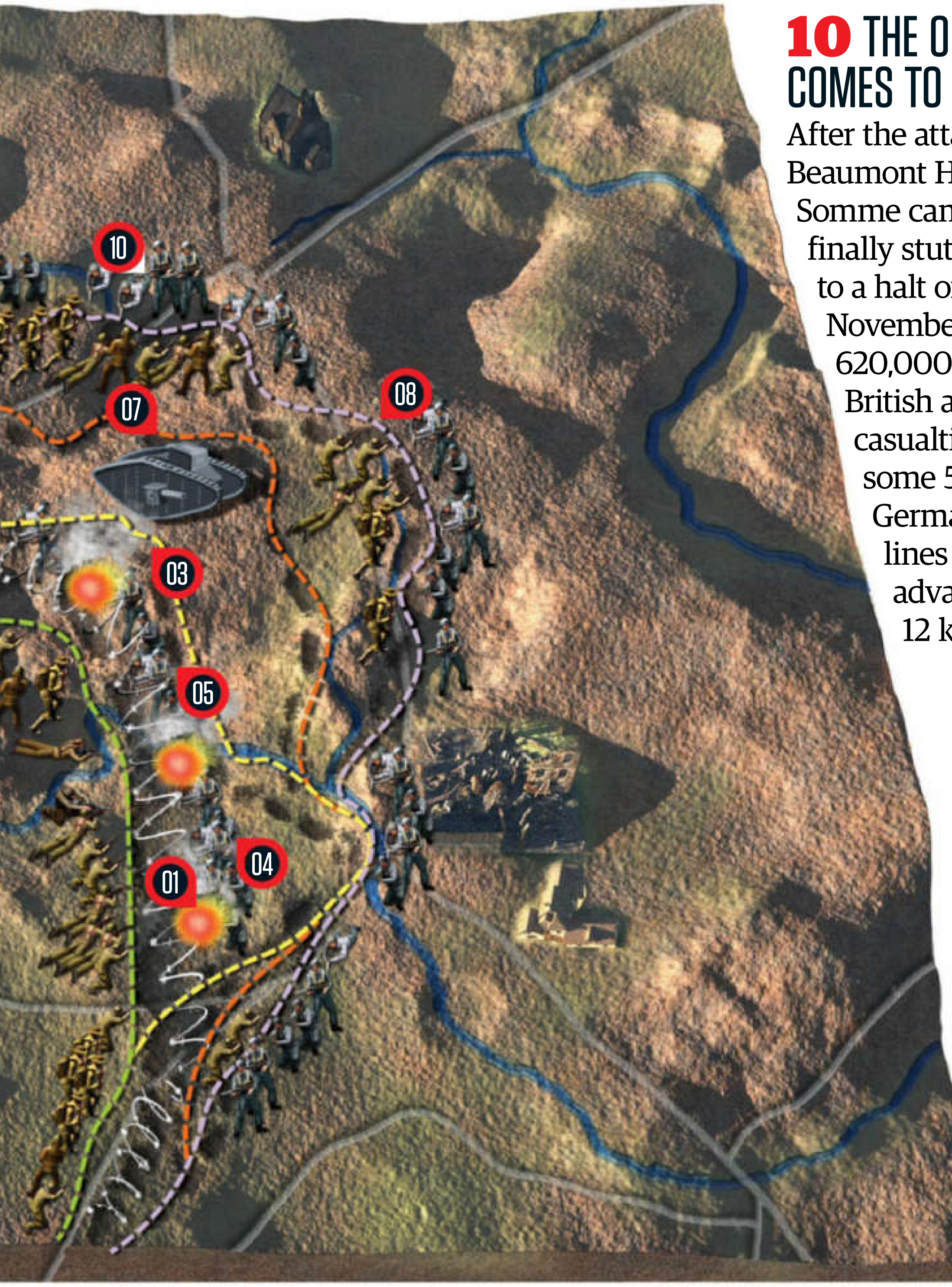
The first line of enemy trenches are taken by General Rawlinson's Fourth Army on 11 July, however, German reinforcements are soon on their way from the nearby Verdun front.

06 Slow progress

The tough German commander Max von Gallwitz is put in command of the German front-line defence on 19 July and the reorganised German army is able to hamper British gains with counterattacks. Pozieres is taken by two Australian divisions on 23 July and by the end of the month the line has advanced, but few of the primary objectives have yet been taken.

07 Tank offensive

Tanks are used for the first time in the Great War, during an attack on German lines spanning 12 kilometres on 15 September, at Flers-Courcelette. Only about 50 'land battleships' are available for use and several break down before even reaching the front line, leaving just 22 to rumble towards the German positions during this fresh push. Though many German soldiers are rattled by the sight of the tanks, the overall attack begins to falter and is halted on 22 September, with limited territorial gains.



10 THE OFFENSIVE COMES TO AN END

After the attack at Beaumont Hamel, the Somme campaign finally stutters to a halt on 18 November. With 620,000 estimated British and French casualties, and some 500,000 German, the lines have advanced only 12 kilometres.

08 THE BRITISH CRAWL FORWARD

Over the next month, attacks at Morval, Thiepval Ridge, Ancre Heights and others achieve small gains into October, paying for each trench and each advance with heavy casualties on both sides. The French likewise advance their lines in the south.

09 Final attack

With winter fast approaching, which would spell the end of any effective attacks, the last offensive effort of the Somme campaign sees the British advance on Beaumont Hamel, near the Ancre river. Beginning with artillery bombardments, the British Fifth Army attack on 13 November. In some areas, the attack is a great success, with many German prisoners taken, but the poor conditions soon take their toll on the British, and the attack is halted with only some of the initial objectives taken.

German Empire

TROOPS 9 DIVISIONS, TOTALLING C.90,000

GENERAL ERICH VON FALKENHAYN

LEADER

A seasoned soldier and politician with a mind for defence.

Strengths His preparations in building solid defences at the Somme battlefield.

Weakness A determination to not concede any ground resulted in heavy German losses.

MACHINE-GUN TEAMS

KEY UNIT

Sending a deadly hail of bullets across the battlefield in very quick succession.

Strengths Devastating to the opposing infantry.

Weakness Hard to redeploy and would overheat with use.

GEWEHR 98 CARBINE

KEY WEAPON

The staple weapon of the German army, ideal for the trench warfare of World War I.

Strengths A five-round clip and accurate up to 2,000 metres.

Weakness Long build of the barrel was unsuitable for close-quarters shooting.

© Alamy; Corbis; Sayo Studio

STONEHENGE DECODED

This mysterious ancient monument has kept us guessing about its purpose for centuries, but now it seems the answer could lie far beyond its stone boundaries

Written by Alicea Francis

The looming silhouette of Stonehenge has dominated the landscape of Salisbury Plain for so long that the two appear to have become one and the same. It was the landscape that inspired the origins of the henge, and in turn the henge went on to shape the land around it. Now it appears that the secret to its true purpose may be also be found beyond the circle itself.

In a revolutionary new study, archaeologists Mike Parker Pearson and Ramilisonina have concluded that Stonehenge is just part of a much larger ancient site, and that for centuries historians have been ignoring an important piece of the puzzle at the nearby Durrington Walls. But its purpose is not the only mystery surrounding this iconic monument. Though ancient stone circles can be found in their multitudes, with more than 1,000 still standing in the British Isles and Brittany alone, Stonehenge's construction is unlike any on Earth. It is the only one to feature lintels – the horizontal stones that straddle its vertical pillars – and a type of stone exotic to the region. This uniqueness has prompted centuries of speculation and intrigue: Who built it and how? Why here? Why with this design? As a result, Stonehenge has become Britain's most investigated ancient monument, but it remains shrouded in mystery.

Having been built before the introduction of the written word, there are no records to give us a definitive answer to any of these questions. While it's safe to say that most historians have ruled out the involvement of wizards and giants in its creation, there remains much dispute as to why it was built and how such a primitive people succeeded in building this masterpiece of engineering. Could these new discoveries really hold the key to Stonehenge's mystery?

Who built it?

For some, Stonehenge is too spectacular to be a product of man – only supernatural forces could create such a masterpiece. But most now accept that its roots are grounded in reality

The interior of a reconstruction of a Neolithic home

THE THEORIES

» GIANTS
» ALIENS
» DRUIDS
» NEOLITHIC MAN

In the 12th century, Welsh cleric Geoffrey of Monmouth immortalised an old folk tale in his chronicle *Historia Regum Britanniae*. Its protagonist was King Aurelius Ambrosius, a 5th-century commander of the Romano British who led a victorious battle against Anglo-Saxons. To honour the fallen, he sent the wizard Merlin to move a great stone circle from its original site in Ireland to the blood-soaked Salisbury Plain. The circle, Monmouth reported, had been built by giants.

Even in the Middle Ages, it's unlikely this was considered any more than a fairytale. But in the 17th century, antiquarian John Aubrey carried out a study of 'templa druidum', asserting that Stonehenge had been built by the mysterious people who inspired the character of Merlin – the druids. These were ancient priests of the Celtic pagan religion who supposedly performed human sacrifice. He dated it to 460 BCE.

The druid theory was built upon in the 18th century by William Stukeley, a leading figure in Neo-Druidry who pioneered the archaeological investigation of Stonehenge. It was around this time that the name 'Slaughter Stone' was given to one of the stones close to the entrance of the circle, which had (and still has) a reddish tinge.

Stukeley's claims were disregarded in the 19th century when Bronze-Age remains were discovered at the site. This period in Britain ended in approximately 800 BCE – more than 500 years before the earliest references to druids. In fact, modern radiocarbon dating has indicated that building began as early as 3100 BCE, during the late Neolithic. It's unlikely Stonehenge was even used for druid ceremonies, as they preferred to perform these in woods or on mountains. Contrary to the belief that the Slaughter Stone had been stained by sacrificial blood, this discolouration was found to be caused by chemical reactions between rainwater and the iron within the stone.

Human activity in the area dates back even further to the Mesolithic period. Archaeologists have discovered four large postholes near the site believed to date from about 8000 BCE. These would have held timber posts that may have had ritual significance. In approximately 3500 BCE, a 'cursus' (earthwork with parallel banks) was built about 700 metres north of where Stonehenge would later stand, also likely ceremonial.

We can never be sure why this area held so much significance to the Ancient Britons. One

suggestion is that its hillocks and valleys made it an ideal hunting ground, with the River Avon allowing easy access for nomadic tribes. Others suggest that a rare natural phenomenon inspired the belief this was a sacred place, with shocks of bright pink flint breaking up the otherwise dull landscape. We now know that this rock discolouration was caused by a rare algae in the spring water, but at a time when the world was a colour palette of greens and browns, the only explanation would have been supernatural.

However, a recent excavation has revealed that a natural landform created by Ice Age meltwater may be the reason this site was considered so sacred. In 2013, Parker Pearson discovered naturally occurring ridges that point directly at the midwinter sunset in one direction and the midsummer sunrise in the other. This would have seemed more than mere coincidence to a civilisation so in tune with nature and the seasons, and perhaps the reason why they chose to build a monument like no other here.

In 3100 BCE, Britain was at the height of its Neolithic period. The previously nomadic tribes began to settle, and slowly made the transition from hunter-gatherers to farmers. Cattle, sheep and goats were brought over by migrants from the continent, as well as the first seed grains of wheat and barley. It is these people who initiated the first stage in Stonehenge's development - the creation of a circular earth bank and ditch measuring about 110 metres in diameter, with a large entrance to the north east (aligned with the landform and the midsummer sunrise) and a smaller one to the south. A ring of 56 chalk pits - known as Aubrey holes - around the edge of the bank suggests that timber posts were erected at this time.

Around 3000 BCE, it is believed some kind of timber structure was erected within the circular enclosure. Further standing timbers were placed at the north-east entrance, and a parallel alignment of posts ran inward from the south entrance.

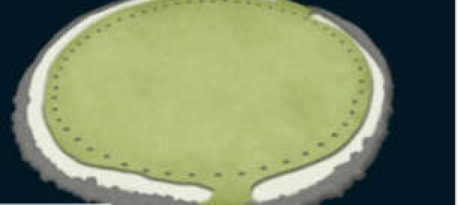
The first stones arrived in about 2600 BCE. These appear to have been bluestones - possibly about 80 of them - arranged in pairs to form a double ring. It is also believed that the 'Avenue' - a parallel pair of ditches and banks leading to the River Avon - was added at this time. However, this phase was abandoned unfinished, with the bluestones later removed and the holes filled in.

Between 2600 BCE and 2400 BCE, huge sandstone boulders called sarsens were brought to the site to create the iconic ring and horseshoe arrangement we recognise today. By this point, Britain had entered the Bronze Age, and its people had developed better tools and a communal way of life. A settlement at the nearby Durrington Walls - two miles north east - has proved to be the largest of its period, with hundreds of houses possibly occupied by the builders of Stonehenge.

Finally, between 2400 BCE and 1600 BCE, the bluestones were re-erected within the outer sarsen circle. By about 1500 BCE, Stonehenge was no longer maintained. Stones were removed from the site or simply eroded away. Today, it lies in ruin.

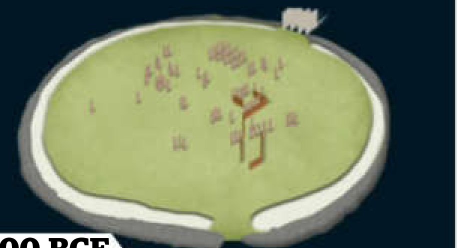
THE DEVELOPMENT OF STONEHENGE

Britain's most iconic ancient monument wasn't built overnight; in fact, its development spans more than 1,000 years



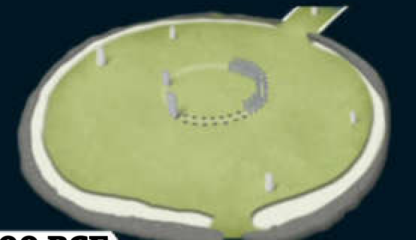
3100 BCE

The earth bank and ditch is dug, possibly with a ring of timber posts around the inner edge



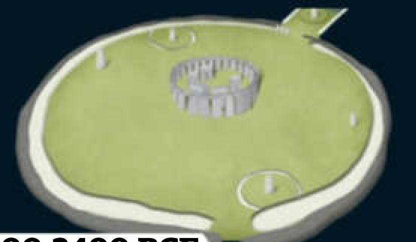
3000 BCE

Timber posts are erected at the centre of the site and north east entrance



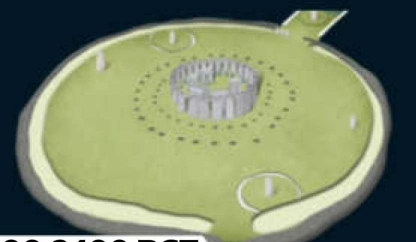
2600 BCE

Bluestones are added and arranged in a double ring, along with larger sarsens. The Avenue is also dug



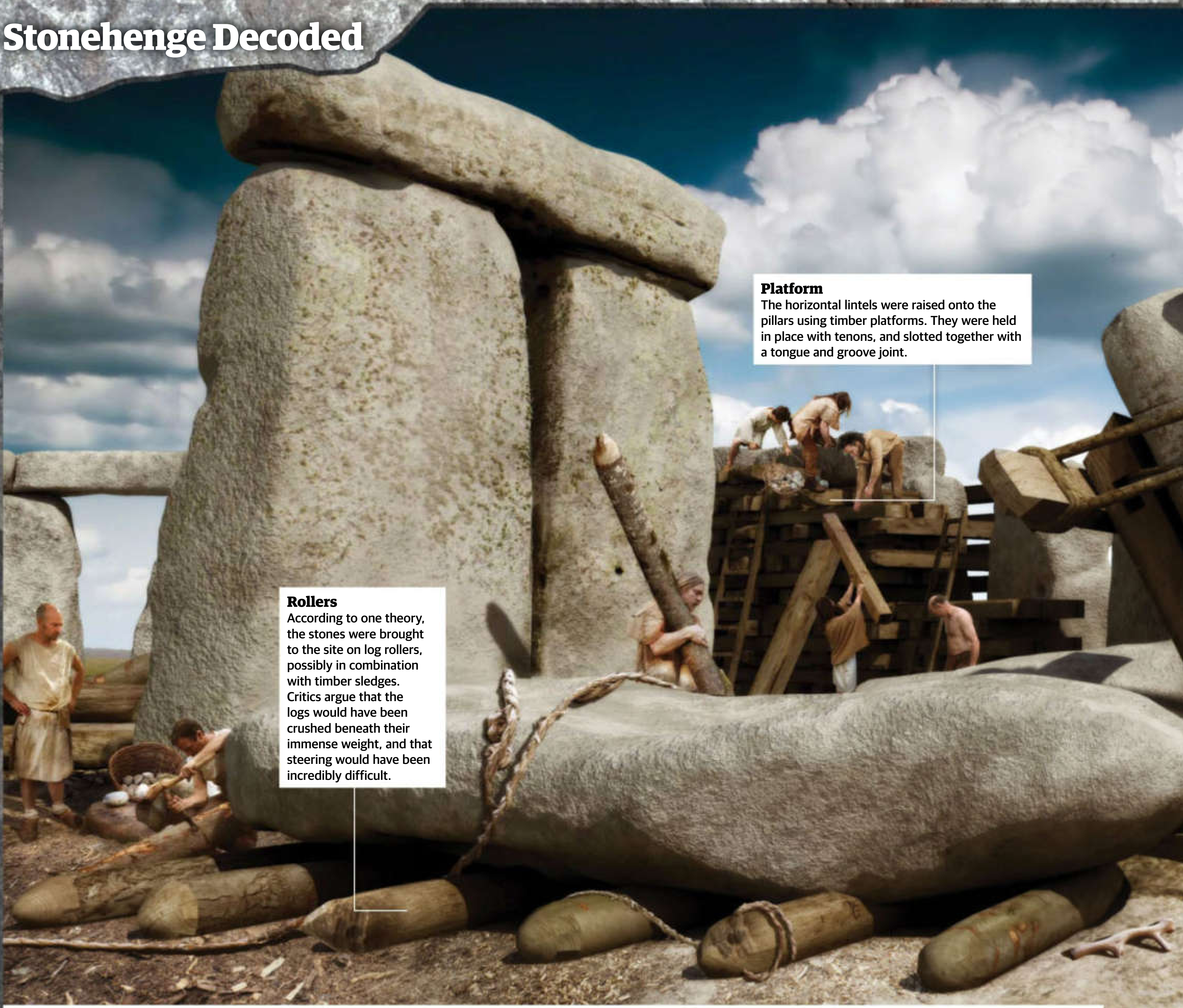
2600-2400 BCE

The iconic sarsen circle and horseshoe are created, as well as small circular earthworks



2600-2400 BCE

Bluestones are re-erected within the outer sarsen circle and pits are dug around the outside



Platform
The horizontal lintels were raised onto the pillars using timber platforms. They were held in place with tenons, and slotted together with a tongue and groove joint.

Rollers
According to one theory, the stones were brought to the site on log rollers, possibly in combination with timber sledges. Critics argue that the logs would have been crushed beneath their immense weight, and that steering would have been incredibly difficult.

How were the stones transported?

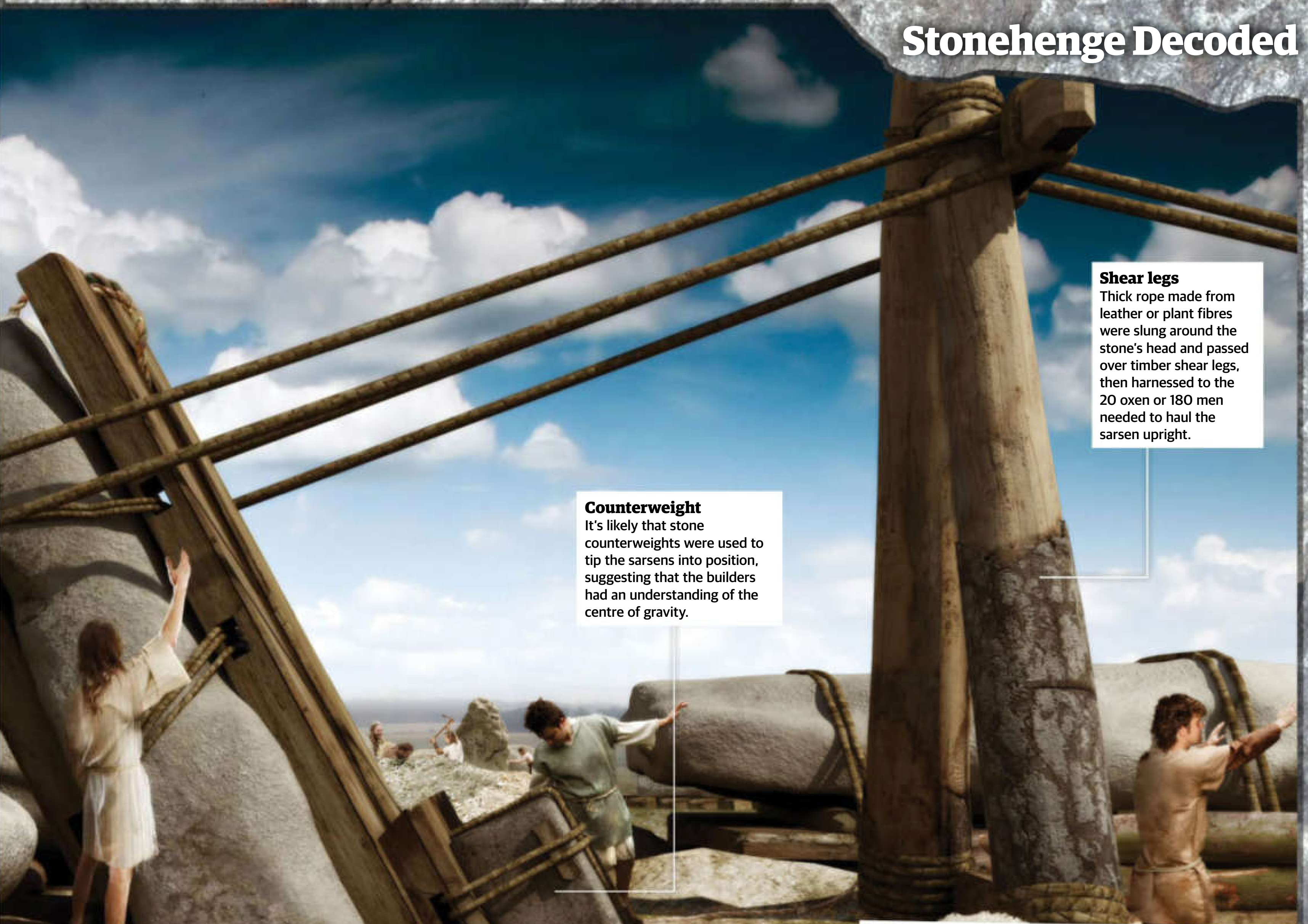
Reconstructions have proved that their movement without machinery is possible, but some remain unconvinced that man alone could have shifted the giant boulders

THE THEORIES
- » LOG ROLLERS
- » BALL BEARINGS
- » GLACIERS
- » MAGIC

The sarsens that make up the outer circle of Stonehenge are huge. Each stands about four metres high, two metres wide, and weighs about 25 tons. Originally, there would have been 30 of these creating the circle, with 30 slightly smaller lintel stones resting on top.

But the ten that make up the horseshoe arrangement in the centre are even bigger. With the smallest standing six metres high, and the largest just over seven, these sarsens weighed up to 50 tons each. It is likely that they came from a quarry 20 miles north of Stonehenge. The four-ton bluestones, however, are not local to the area. In 1923, geologist Herbert Henry Thomas proposed that they came from the Preseli Mountains in Pembrokeshire, Wales - some 140 miles away. How such a primitive civilisation could transport and erect these stones without the use of modern machinery or even metal tools, and before the invention of the wheel, is a question that has baffled historians for centuries. It's easy to understand why Medieval visitors to the site concluded that magic was the only explanation.

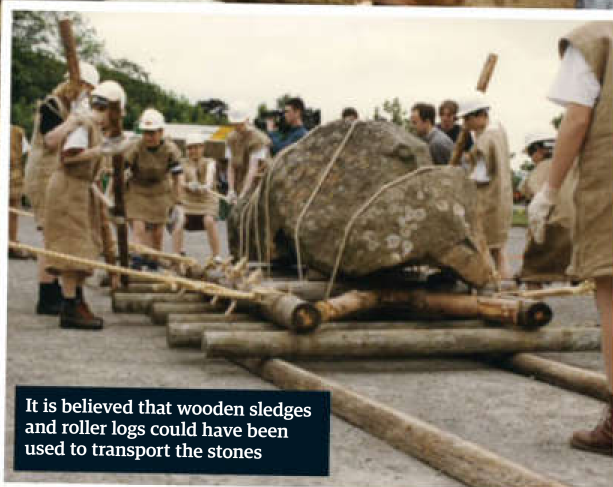
Today, the most popular theory is that the bluestones were transported by river on rafts and over land using wooden rollers - carved tree trunks laid side by side. Others have suggested that wooden sledges were used, perhaps in combination with rollers. The sarsens would have been too heavy to transport over water, so only the roller technique could have been used. Calculations have estimated that 500 men using leather ropes would have been needed to pull just one sarsen, with 100 men needed to lay the huge rollers in front.



Shear legs
Thick rope made from leather or plant fibres were slung around the stone's head and passed over timber shear legs, then harnessed to the 20 oxen or 180 men needed to haul the sarsen upright.

Counterweight
It's likely that stone counterweights were used to tip the sarsens into position, suggesting that the builders had an understanding of the centre of gravity.

Holes
These were about two metres deep and were dug using antler picks. One side was sloped to allow the sarsen to be slid into it. Once the stone had been raised, the hole was filled in to prevent it from toppling over.



It is believed that wooden sledges and roller logs could have been used to transport the stones

However, this technique would have required the use of hard surfaces and trenches, evidence for which has never been found. What has been found, however, are a number of mysterious stone balls near Stonehenge-like monuments in Aberdeenshire, Scotland. These are roughly the size of cricket balls and shaped to be within a millimetre of the same size, suggesting that they were intended to be used together.

This finding has prompted some archaeologists to suggest that the sarsens were moved using ball bearings, inserted into grooves dug out of timber planks. When put on to a sledge-like platform, the stones could then easily be pulled and pushed along the tracks. An experiment carried out in 2010 by the University of Exeter proved that it was indeed possible.

Despite this, some archaeologists remain unconvinced that such a feat of engineering and manpower could have been achieved by Neolithic man. From the 1970s, geologists began proposing alternative theories, preferring to believe that the stones were carried the long distance by Ice Age glaciers and deposited near to the site.

Beyond the controversy, we can be almost certain that the sarsens were shaped using sarsen and flint hammerstones, hundreds of which have been found at the site. The larger ones would have been used to roughly flake and chip the stone, and the smaller to finish and smooth the surfaces. Protruding tenons were also carved into the top of the pillars. They were then tipped into holes two metres deep dug using antler picks, and hauled upright using shear legs and ropes. These holes were specially shaped with one sloping face and one vertical face, with a tight-fitting bottom section. Stone counterweights may also have been used to help tip the stone upright. Once in place, the holes were filled in with tightly packed earth.

Lintels were also shaped using hammerstones, with mortice holes carved into the bottom for the tenons to fit into. The edges were shaped into tongue and groove joints – a joint previously only seen in woodwork. Once shaped, the lintels were raised using timber platforms, or possibly hauled up earth ramps piled against the uprights.

What was it for?

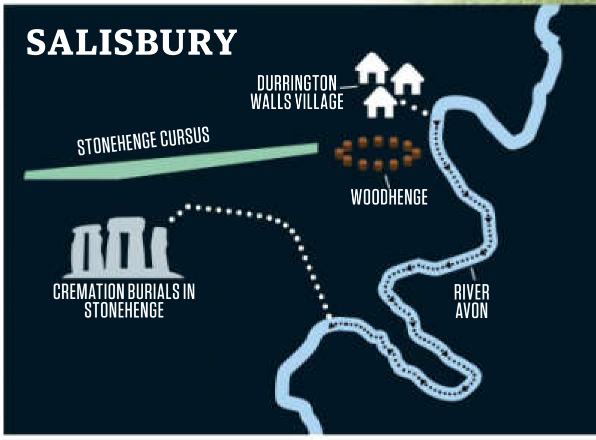
With so much thought and manpower involved in its construction, Stonehenge must have had an equally well-designed purpose. Could the answer lie in the landscape?

THE THEORIES

- » **ASTRONOMICAL CALENDAR**
- » **CEREMONIAL SITE**
- » **PLACE OF HEALING**
- » **BURIAL GROUND**

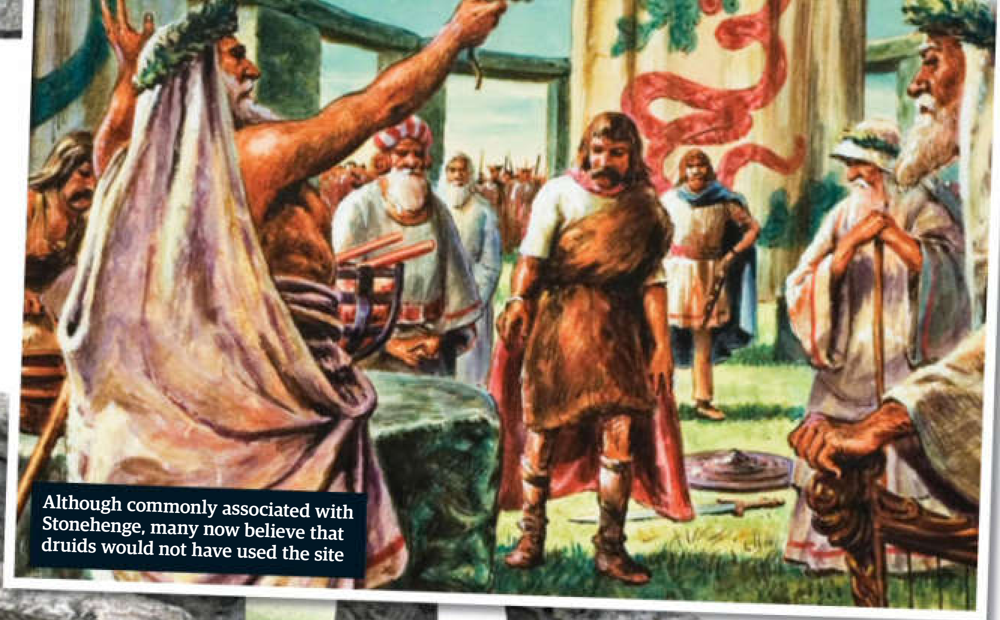
For many, the biggest clue in deciphering what Stonehenge was originally built for lies in its alignment. At summer solstice, an observer standing in the centre of the stone circle can watch the Sun rise directly over the north-east entrance, and approximately over the Heelstone. This has resulted in the popular belief that Stonehenge was a kind of calendar - vital for a society built on agriculture. Historians have suggested that the Aubrey holes acted as markers for astronomical observations, particularly lunar ones. In 1966, English astronomer Sir Fred Hoyle concluded that the 28-day lunar cycle could have been indicated by moving a stone representing the moon anticlockwise around the Aubrey holes by two holes every day. It would also have been possible to use these to predict a lunar eclipse.

An alternative theory is that Stonehenge was simply ceremonial. The man-made avenue that leads to its north-east entrance suggests a processional route, and implies that the monument may have been an ancient temple. Some have even suggested that it had a timber roof, and that the sun's rays would enter the building through a door during the summer solstice. However, the relatively short length



Domains of the living and dead

Archaeologist Mike Parker Pearson believes that Stonehenge and the nearby Neolithic site of Durrington Walls were linked by two man-made avenues and the River Avon. This created a funerary procession route from the 'land of the living' to the burial ground of the ancestors at Stonehenge.



Although commonly associated with Stonehenge, many now believe that druids would not have used the site

of British trees would have created problems when trying to build a roof of this size, and no evidence for any rainwater run-off has ever been found.

Archaeologists Geoff Wainwright and Timothy Darvill have proposed that Stonehenge was a centre of healing – a kind of ancient Lourdes. They believe the bluestones were brought from the Welsh mountains because of their healing powers – a claim first made in Geoffrey of Monmouth's 12th-century tale. The grave of a crippled Bronze-Age man believed to hail from an alpine region of central Europe has been used to support this theory. The pair argue that the distances people travelled to the site could only have been fuelled by a promise of spiritual and physical benefit.

But the latest theory – and perhaps the most substantiated – arose after the discovery of more than 50,000 cremated bone fragments in one of the Aubrey holes. The findings, made by Parker Pearson, led him to conclude that Stonehenge was in fact a giant burial ground – or at least started off that way. The bones date back to 3000 BCE – around the time that the henge and Aubrey holes were created – and many were found within the holes themselves. The excavations also revealed crushed chalk at the bottom of the pit, suggesting that they supported not timber posts, but something much heavier – perhaps bluestones acting as ancient grave markers.

Parker Pearson has also developed the idea that Stonehenge was part of a much larger ancient landscape that included the nearby Durrington Walls settlement.

In 1998, a Malagasy colleague suggested that, as with similar circles in Madagascar, the henge represented the ancestors, constructed in stone to reflect the eternity of life after death. Wood, which decomposes, represents the temporary world of the living. It was then that the pair formulated a model in which Stonehenge was linked to its timber equivalent at Durrington Walls.

Excavations have shown that an avenue similar to the one at Stonehenge led from its large timber circle to the River Avon. Funerary processions may well have begun at Durrington Walls, continued along the river, and finished at the burial ground of Stonehenge.

With so many restrictions on the archaeological excavation of Stonehenge, it may be years before further links can be made between the two sites. But what all of these findings remind us is that nothing in history can be considered in isolation – it's all part of a much bigger jigsaw puzzle.

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HEROES & VILLAINS

Lord Haw-Haw

"Germany calling!" screeched Lord Haw-Haw, the British traitor peddling defeatist propaganda from a German radio station during World War II

Written by Stephen Roberts

William Joyce was born in 1906 in Brooklyn, USA, to Irish parents. He lived on the Emerald Isle as a child, before emigrating to England with his family in 1922. Crucially, for what followed, he became a British citizen and held a British passport, but this was based on deceit. Joyce claimed he was born in Galway (Ireland), which was a lie. He had actually lived there from the age of three. Joyce proved himself an intelligent and argumentative child, happy to back opinions with fists. One scrap resulted in his nose being bust, which is thought to have caused the nasal drawl. This made his later broadcasts both stand-out and irritating.

The Joyce family opted to leave when the Anglo-Irish Treaty split Ireland in two: the predominantly Catholic south and a smaller, Protestant, Brit-loyal north still part of the UK. The Joyces were in the awkward position of being British sympathisers in the south, and discretion called them to England. Joyce was 15. Given the family's British loyalties, it is all the more surprising he later turned traitor.

Joyce was briefly in the army, but was discharged for being underage, before commencing studies at Battersea Polytechnic, moving on to Birkbeck College (University of London), where he also taught. He developed a passionate interest in fascism because of his studies and, as early as 1923, joined the British Fascisti Ltd, an offshoot of the Italian Fascists, who arrived before Hitler's copycats. At university, Joyce was frequently heckled because of his anti-Semitic views. In 1924, he got involved in another scrap in Lambeth, this time with left-wingers, and received a deep razor slash across his right cheek, leaving a permanent scar of the disfiguring variety. Joyce claimed his assailant was a 'communist Jew'.

By 1925, Joyce had left the Fascisti, who were evidently too tame, and rather bizarrely joined the Conservatives. He also graduated in 1927. Bruiser he may have been, but he was also bright. Being 'scar-face' didn't prevent romance either. Marrying Hazel Barr in April 1927, the couple would go on to have two children, including Heather, who always

Rumours circulated around a chocolate factory after Haw-Haw said: "By the way, we know all about Fry's"

Enemies

Winston Churchill

For the British wartime prime minister, Haw-Haw was no laughing matter. His sneering, horrible voice emphasised the power of propaganda, which could do so much damage to morale at home, especially around the time of Dunkirk and the Blitz.

William Hartley Shawcross

Shawcross was a British barrister and lead British prosecutor at the Nuremberg War Crimes Tribunal, when prominent Nazis were sentenced. As attorney-general, he prosecuted Haw-Haw for treason because of his British passport.

A crowd outside Wandsworth Prison, London, queue to get into William Joyce's trial

protested his innocence. He would become a traitor, but was also husband and father. It looked like he might 'go straight' for a while, with a full-time academic career, but then Oswald Mosley arrived on the scene in October 1932 and suddenly Joyce was heading in an entirely different direction.

It was obvious where Joyce's sympathies lay when he joined Mosley's British Union of Fascists in 1933, a bunch of black-shirted Hitler worshippers and thugs. Joyce gave up academia and became a party speaker instead, hurling out prejudices against the Jewish community. By 1934, Joyce had become director of propaganda. That same year, he launched his bid for a UK passport, which would ultimately be his undoing.

Mosley and Joyce did not see eye to eye, Joyce's anti-Jewish oratory being too hot even for Mosley. Joyce was chucked out in 1937, but responded by setting up his own mob of Hitlerites, the British National Socialist Party, or British Nazi Party. He also divorced and re-married around this time. His new wife, Margaret, acted as treasurer, most likely sharing his unpleasant views. The thug was never far away and Joyce made court appearances on assault charges as skirmishes got out of hand. He was never convicted, however.

Joyce made no secret of his admiration for Hitler and was in contact with suspected German agents in Britain. It now became a race against time. As war got closer, Joyce schemed to get to Germany, as anyone with clear Nazi leanings in Britain would be interned for the war's duration, and MI5 wanted to detain him. Joyce, crucially, got a one-year extension on his passport to July 1940. It would prove his death warrant.

Just days before World War II erupted, Joyce and his wife fled to Berlin, with MI5 hot on their tails. Some believe Joyce had 'friends' within the security services and that he was tipped off about his imminent arrest. When Special Branch swooped in, its bird had flown. Joyce's background was such that both he and his wife obtained work with the equivalent of Germany's BBC.

From September 1939 to April 1945, Joyce kept up a stream of 7pm propaganda broadcasts, telling Britain it would lose the war. Joyce maintained an irritating sore of poisonous prose, which was heartily approved of by Nazi propaganda guru Joseph Goebbels. Joyce's broadcasts consisted of falsehood, abuse and threats. For the British, he became one of the most hated individuals of all of World War II. In spite of his unpopularity, some 18 million Britons allegedly tuned in to listen to Joyce in the early part of the war. While not illegal, this would have been frowned upon; morbid fascination maybe.

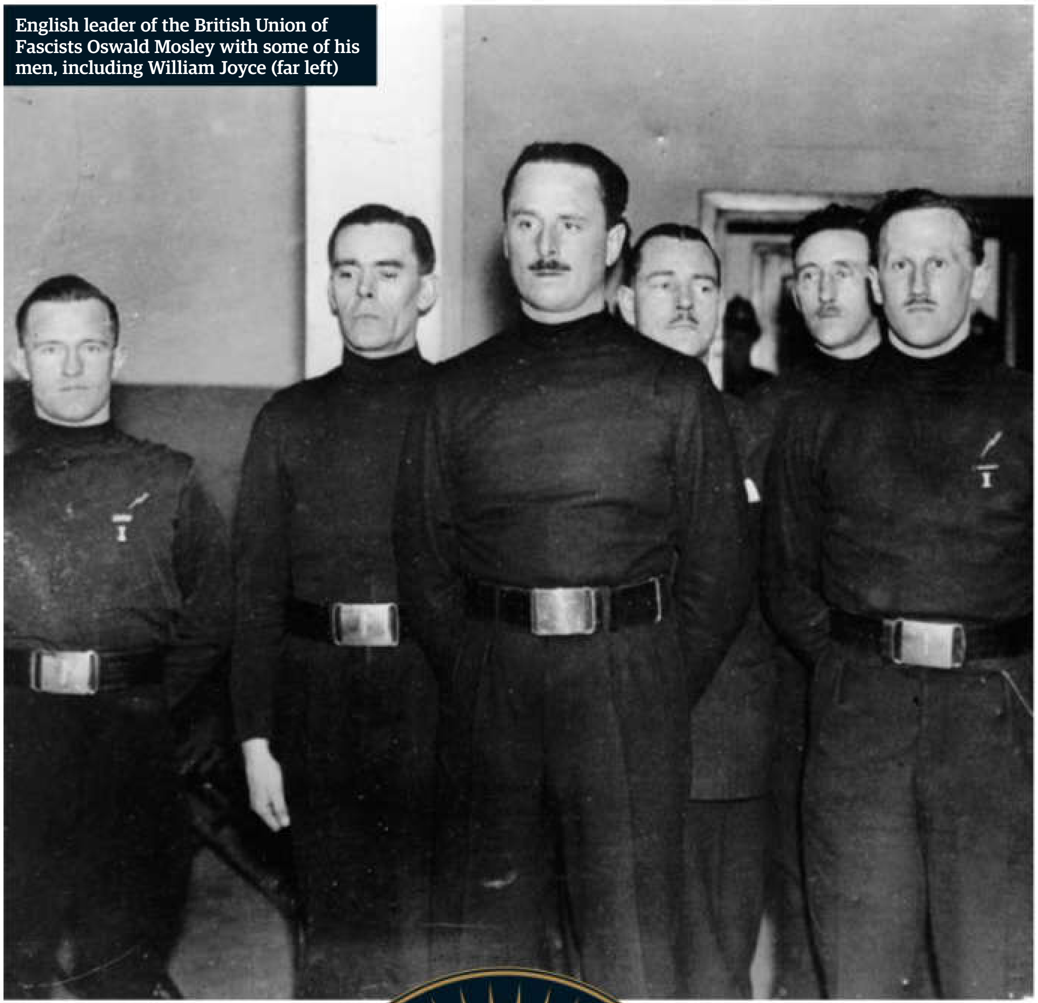
> In Peterborough, rumours of an attack on a factory caused workers to stay at home

Rumours persist that Joyce was a double agent, operating for MI5; a protégé, some say, of spy-master Maxwell Knight, inspiration behind Ian Fleming's 'M' from the *James Bond* series. According to Joyce's daughter Heather, Maxwell Knight was a regular visitor to the Joyce household on Sunday afternoons in the period leading up to World War II. He was an eccentric character, accompanied by a bear kept on a chain.

Joyce's nickname soon became 'Lord Haw-Haw', earned by his opening gambit of "Chairmanny calling! Chairmanny calling!" It was pretentious, and folk detested him for it.

Joyce and his wife became naturalised Germans in 1940. He was the most important propaganda broadcaster they had and was rewarded accordingly, culminating in a Cross of War Merit First Class from Hitler in 1944. Joyce's early popularity in Britain (maybe he was someone they could have a laugh at) soon waned as British cities were bombed. It was no longer a laughing matter. Joyce kept up his attacks, maintaining that Jews and communists were to blame and that Britain and Germany should unite against them.

Joyce also distributed propaganda among British PoWs, hoping to recruit them to the German cause, and also wrote a book extolling the delights of Nazi Germany. It was entitled, menacingly, *Twilight Over England*. As war turned decisively against


English leader of the British Union of Fascists Oswald Mosley with some of his men, including William Joyce (far left)

Germany, Joyce began to drink heavily, smoke opium and 'enjoy' extra-marital affairs. Unsurprisingly, his second marriage soured. With the Soviets approaching Berlin, Joyce moved to Hamburg. It was from here that he made his final broadcast on 30 April 1945, clearly inebriated as he spoke.

The game was up. Shortly afterwards, Joyce was captured by British forces at Flensburg near the German border, desperately trying to get into neutral Denmark. He never made it. Apparently he was shot in the leg by a British interpreter who thought he was pulling a gun; Joyce was actually reaching for forged ID-papers.

He was transported to the UK on 16 June; the Treason Act had been conveniently passed the day before his arrival, enabling Haw-Haw to be charged on three counts. Joyce was put on trial for his life at the Old Bailey in London in September 1945. It would have been earlier but for complications caused by his involved nationality.

Lord Haw-Haw was convicted of treason in spite of his defence that he was of American birth and not subject to British law. His UK passport came back to haunt him. It was valid until July 1940, so he had been a traitor from September 1939 until then, a period of nine months. The sentence was death by hanging.

Many were pleased he had been brought to justice, but there was disquiet about the punishment's severity. He was not directly responsible for a single death, unlike those responsible for the multitudes dying in concentration camps, whose punishment would be the same. There was an appeal, which went to the House of Lords, but it changed nothing. Joyce was unrepentant, blaming Jews to the end by all accounts.

Joyce was executed at Wandsworth Prison on 3 January 1946, the last person in British history to be hanged for treason. He was buried in unconsecrated ground within the prison.

Joyce's wife was not charged, being shipped out of Britain after the execution. She returned later to the UK, where she died in 1972. There was no disputing her 'Britishness' and she also made broadcasts, yet she escaped punishment. Rumours continue that Joyce hatched a deal with MI5 to save her. In 1976, Joyce's remains were exhumed and returned to Ireland.

To counter Haw-Haw, the War Office advised the BBC to put on a 'funny man' to mock him

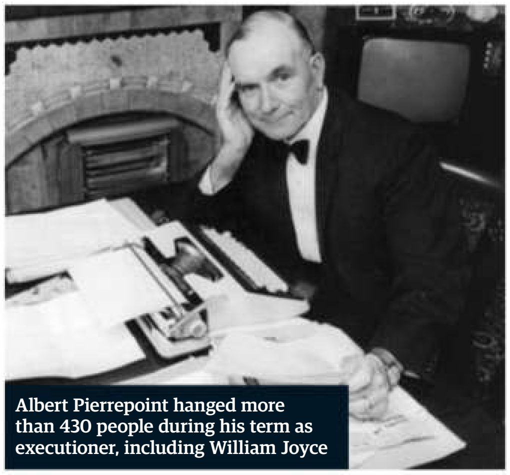
Allies

Sir Oswald Mosley

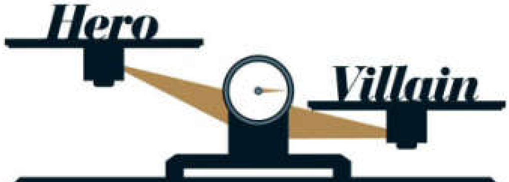
Mosley was a member of the 1929 Labour government who then became leader of the British Union of Fascists. He founded the 'Union' movement in 1948, his vision for a politically and economically united Europe.

Joseph Goebbels

Hitler's head of the Ministry of Public Enlightenment and Propaganda, Goebbels was effectively Joyce's boss. By 1943, while Hitler focused on the war, Goebbels effectively ran the country. After killing his six children, he committed suicide alongside his wife.


Albert Pierrepoint hanged more than 430 people during his term as executioner, including William Joyce

"For the British, he became one of the most hated individuals of all of World War II"



William Joyce was the last person in British history hanged for treason, his attempts to undermine British morale ultimately leading to his own execution

© Alamy, Getty Images

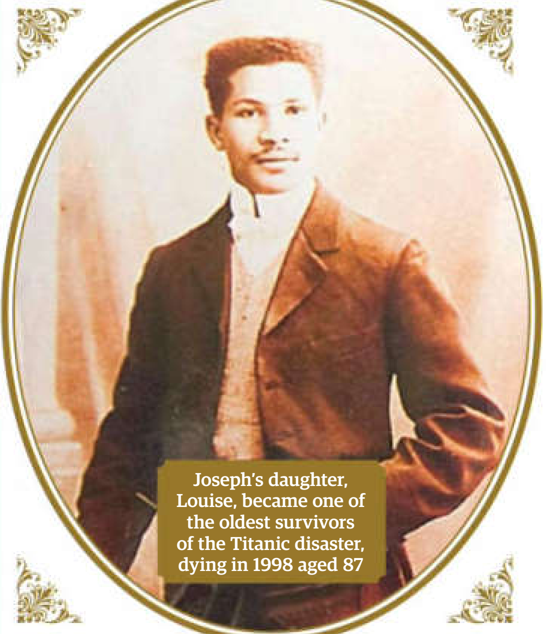
Tragedy on TITANIC

The tales of ten men and women who miraculously beat the odds or sacrificed it all on a cold April night in 1912

Written by Frances White

Despite the common misconception, RMS Titanic was never called 'unsinkable' in the run up to its maiden voyage. In fact, it wasn't until after the sinking that it became known as such. It was 'practically unsinkable', but so was every other luxury liner of the period. These ships just didn't sink - that was the end of it - and there was nothing special about Titanic in this regard. It was because of this general attitude of superiority over the sea that Titanic carried only enough lifeboats for half of the passengers on board, and none of the crew members were trained in how to conduct an evacuation. The officers, later criticised for releasing lifeboats half full, simply had no idea how many people could safely board the boats. Nobody had the slightest notion that the ship would, or even could, sink.

With no procedures in place to protect them and a ship completely unprepared for evacuation, when Titanic hit an iceberg on 12 April 1912, those on board had to fend for themselves. For some, death was inevitable, but for others it was a noble choice - such as the devoted wife who refused to leave her husband, and the band that played until the final moment. In less than three hours, hundreds of lives were changed, and more were ended. From penniless immigrants to multi-millionaires, every man, woman and child on board had a life, a story and a destiny. Their tales of heroism, sacrifice and survival have intrigued people for more than 100 years; these are just ten of them.



Joseph's daughter, Louise, became one of the oldest survivors of the Titanic disaster, dying in 1998 aged 87

Joseph Laroche

SECOND-CLASS PASSENGER, 1886-1912

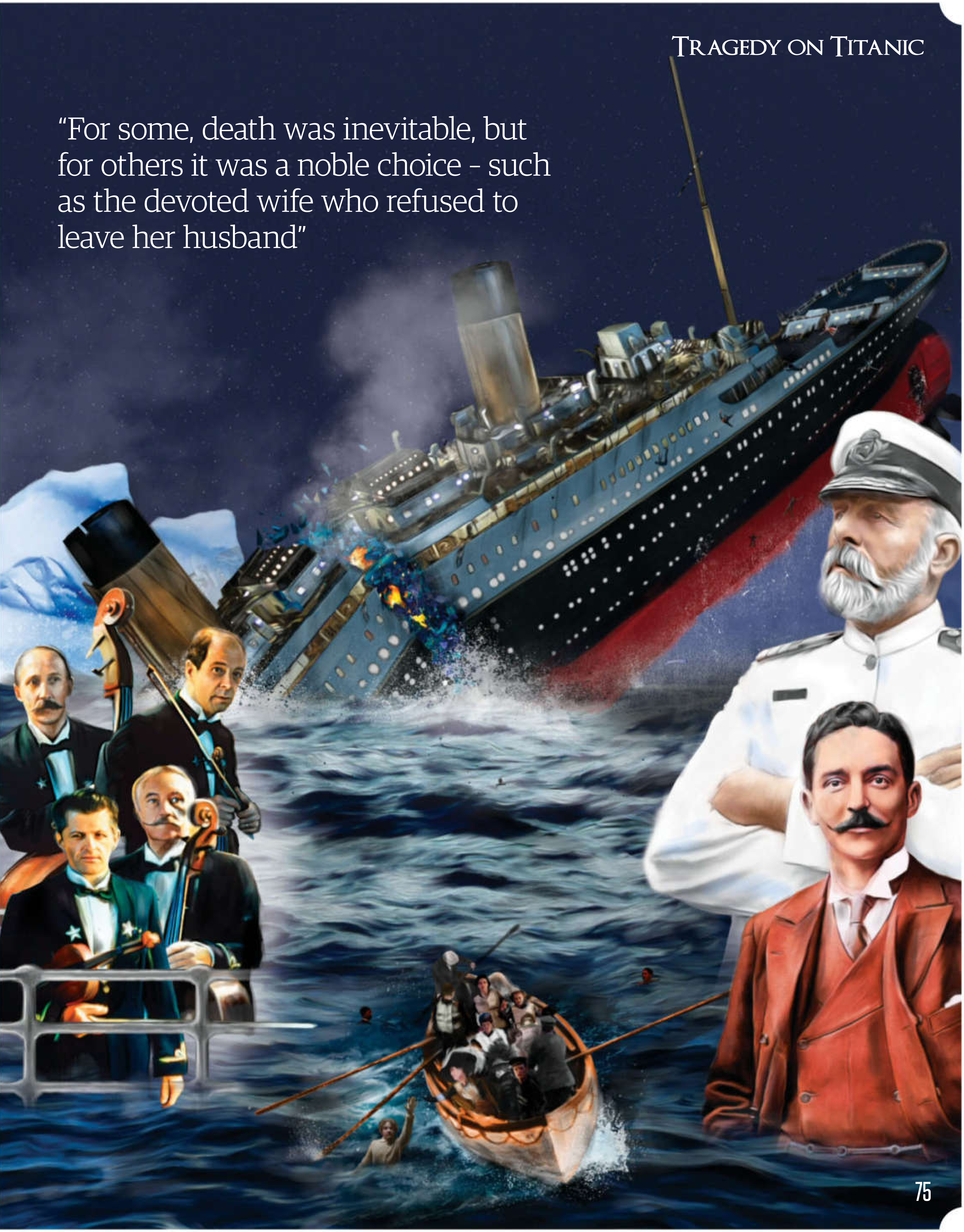
Titanic's forgotten black hero

01

Although Laroche was an educated man with an engineering degree, he struggled to find work because of rampant racism in France. So to pay for his daughter's medical bills, Laroche made the decision to return to his native Haiti with his family of two daughters, and another child on the way. The family first planned to travel on SS France, but changed their tickets to Titanic when they discovered they would not be able to dine with their children.

When Titanic struck the iceberg, Laroche quickly became aware that something was wrong. He woke his wife, Juliette, then put as many of their valuables as he could carry in his pockets. With their young daughters still sleeping, Laroche and Juliette carried the girls up to the deck. Joseph led his pregnant wife and daughters to a lifeboat, possibly lifeboat 8, safely, however, he could not follow them. Sadly, no more of Joseph's story is known. He died in the sinking and his body was never recovered. However, his wife and children survived, and Juliette went on to have a baby boy that she named Joseph in her late husband's honour.

“For some, death was inevitable, but for others it was a noble choice - such as the devoted wife who refused to leave her husband”



Ida & Isidor Straus

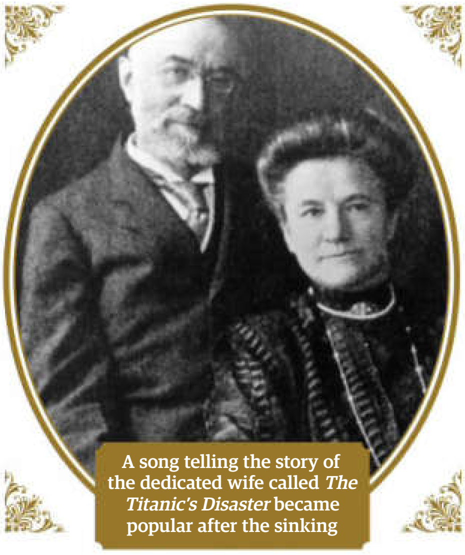
FIRST-CLASS PASSENGERS, 1845-1912/1849-1912

The couple that refused to be separated

02

Ida and Isidor had always been a close couple. Isidor was often called abroad to travel as part of his role as a US representative for New York, or in his position as co-owner of department store Macy's, and he was constantly exchanging letters with his devoted wife. The couple had spent the winter together in Europe and found their way on to Titanic due to a coal strike in England.

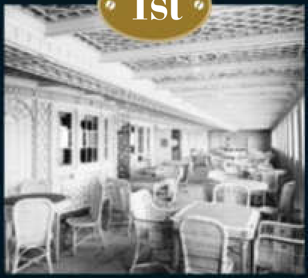
When Titanic hit the iceberg, Ida and Isidor were both offered a place on a lifeboat, however, Isidor declined as there were still women and children on board. Despite his urges for his wife to climb in, she refused to leave without him, stating: "We have lived together for many years. Where you go, I go." Upon witnessing this display of affection, a survivor, Colonel Archibald Gracie IV, offered to help them onto a lifeboat together, but Isidor firmly said: "I will not go before the other men." Aged 67, Isidor believed that the younger men should be saved before himself. Ida made sure her maid was safely on a lifeboat, and handed over her fur coat saying that she would not be needing it. As the lifeboat lowered, those inside witnessed the couple standing arm and arm on the deck in "a most remarkable exhibition of love and devotion." Both died when the ship sank, and the couple's memorial service in New York was attended by 40,000 people.

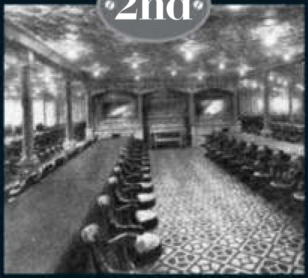


A song telling the story of the dedicated wife called *The Titanic's Disaster* became popular after the sinking

Life on board

Life on board Titanic was very different depending on which number was on your ticket





	1st	2nd	3rd
PEOPLE	Only the elite could afford to travel first class on Titanic, and some of the richest people in the world were on board. Politicians, bankers, businessmen and military personal travelled first class, and were often accompanied by maids and valets.	The equivalent of the modern middle class; professors, clergymen, tourists and authors travelled in second class. These people likely usually travelled in first class, and as Titanic was a luxury liner, second class was close to first class on other liners.	Those in third class were mostly immigrants travelling on a one-way ticket. Some were single passengers hoping to make a new life, and there were also many mothers with children planning to meet with their husbands in the USA as well as families.
FOOD	The first-class dining room ran the entire width of the ship, with room for 500 people whose seats were assigned. Dinner was a major event, with a bugle sounded to signal dinner hour. There was a huge choice of food with ten to 14 courses.	Second class served four courses – soup, a fish course, main meal and dessert. A menu discovered after the sinking offered clear soup, baked haddock, curried chicken with rice, spring lamb, roast turkey, plum pudding, wine jelly and ice cream.	Breakfast, dinner, tea and a late supper were offered to steerage passengers. Common foods included gruel, biscuits, coffee, bread, roast pork, soup and tea. The dining hall could fit 470 people, meaning passengers ate in three sittings.
LODGINGS	Every first-class room was carefully constructed with a variety of styles, from Italian Renaissance to Regency and Louis XVI. The promenade suites had their own private deck, two bedrooms, two wardrobe rooms, a private bath and a sitting room.	Because it was a luxury ship, second-class accommodation on Titanic was very similar to first-class cabins on other ships at the time. There were between two and four berths in each room and they were fitted with mahogany furniture.	The accommodation was far better on Titanic for third-class passengers than on other ships. However, it was cramped. Cabins had four or six beds, while dormitories had up to eight bunks. Third-class passengers had a health inspection prior to boarding.
AMENITIES	First-class passengers enjoyed a wide variety of amenities including a heated swimming pool, gymnasium, barber shop, a host of restaurants and cafes and their own enclosed promenade decks. Stewards were always available to fulfil any requests.	Life in second class was nowhere near as glamorous as it was in first, but passengers were provided with a smoking room and a library. Passengers also had promenade space on the aft of the boat deck to take some air.	A general room for meeting and talking was available for use. There was also a smoking room, and steerage passengers could use the Well deck at the stern of the ship. Third-class toilets, unlike those in first class, automatically flushed.
ENTERTAINMENT	First-class ticket holders wanted for nothing – they could read in the library, use the squash court or develop photographs in a dark room. Many first-class passengers also brought pets with them, and two dogs were saved during the sinking.	As well as entertaining themselves with books from the library and walks on the promenade, second-class passengers could enjoy music courtesy of the ship's orchestra, which played in the second-class lounge and dining saloon.	There wasn't much on board to keep third-class passengers entertained, so often they had to make their own fun. Children amused themselves playing on the deck. There was also a piano in the general room, but no trained musicians provided to play it.
COST	A first-class ticket cost anywhere between £30 and £870, an average of $70,000 today. Although passengers had many amenities, they came at a price – it cost four shillings to use the Turkish baths and one shilling for the gymnasium.	Tickets cost between £13 and £79, about $1,300 today. The difference in price was dependant on where the passenger boarded the ship. Southampton, England, was the first stop, followed by Cherbourg, France, and finally Queenstown in Ireland.	A third-class ticket cost between £7 and £40, approximately $700 today. Children's tickets cost £3, which is the equivalent of about $300 today. Some third-class tickets also included rail travel from the passenger's port of departure.

Rostron was later appointed Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire

Sir Arthur Rostron

CAPTAIN OF RMS CARPATHIA, 1869-1940

The captain who traversed the ice for signs of life

03

Rostron is often forgotten as a hero of the Titanic disaster because he wasn't on board the ship that night, but thanks to his efforts, some 700 lives were saved. After beginning his seafaring career aged 13, Rostron was placed in command of the steamship RMS Carpathia. The ship was travelling along its usual route between New York and Fiume when messages came in from the sinking Titanic. Rostron took immediate action, ordering the ship to divert its course to Titanic's location.

This was no small act. Multiple other ships had received the distress signal, but due to the dense ice, had chosen to stop for the night. Rostron and his crew navigated through the ice at the maximum speed possible, avoiding 200-foot-tall icebergs. Miraculously, the ship made it through the treacherous water, and Rostron, an extremely pious man, later commented: "I can only conclude another hand than mine was on the helm."

It took about three and a half hours to reach the radioed position, but Rostron used this time to prepare the ship for survivors. He ensured there were enough blankets, food and drink ready, as well as medical assistance. Thanks to his expert leadership and bravery, Carpathia picked up 710 survivors. Rostron received much praise and was awarded a silver cup and gold medal from the survivors, as well as the congressional gold medal and an array of other awards.

Charles Lightoller

SECOND MATE, 1874-1952

The officer who battled to maintain order in chaos

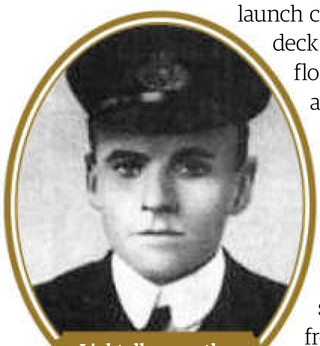
04

Lightoller was no stranger to tragedies at sea. By 1895, aged 21, he had already experienced a shipwreck, fire at sea and a cyclone. After losing everything after a failed gold-prospecting venture, he became a hobo, riding the rails across Canada. By 1900, he had worked his way back home to England and joined the White Star Line, serving as Second Officer on Titanic's maiden voyage.

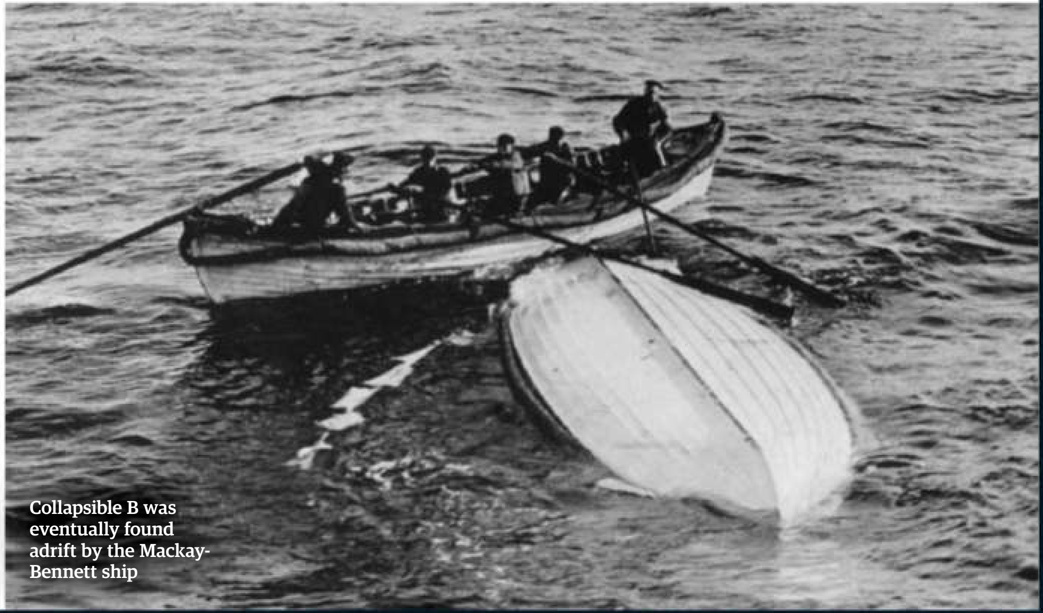
Lightoller was off duty and in his pyjamas when he was woken by a vibration. Although he went out to the deck, he couldn't find anything wrong so returned to his cabin to await orders. He lay in his bunk until the fourth officer informed him of the water seeping into the ship. With the fate of the ship quickly becoming clear, he immediately set about organising evacuation on the lifeboats.

Because of the noise and panic, Lightoller was forced to use hand signals to convey messages while attempting to organise boats on the port side. Although some of the other officers were hesitant about lowering the boats so soon, Lightoller was a veteran of a shipwreck and was eager to get them off as soon as possible. He persuaded as many women and children as possible onto the lifeboats and was very strict about allowing no men on board. He even went as far as to jump on to a lifeboat filled with men, threatening them with an unloaded pistol, shouting: "Get out of there, you damned cowards! I'd like to see every one of you overboard!" Although this action was later seen as controversial, many attribute Lightoller's strict command and clear orders as preventing even more chaos and loss of life.

Lightoller remained on board even after being instructed to get on a lifeboat, replying "not damn likely." The officer was attempting to launch collapsible boat B when the boat deck flooded with water. The lifeboat floated off the deck upside down and Lightoller realised there was no more he could do, so he took a deep breath and dived into the water. He attempted to swim away from the sinking ship but was sucked under and thrown against the grating of a ventilator shaft. Miraculously, a sudden blast from the boilers sent him to the surface and alongside collapsible boat B. Lightoller climbed on the boat and took charge of the 30-odd men clinging to it. He calmed the survivors, encouraging them to yell "boat ahoy." Throughout the night, he instructed the men to move their weight to keep the boat afloat. Thanks to his instruction, they were able to maintain this for hours, which prevented the men from being washed into the freezing depths. They were eventually rescued by a returning lifeboat, largely thanks to Lightoller blowing his whistle. When the survivors boarded Carpathia, Lightoller was the last one on board.



Lightoller was the most senior officer to survive the sinking



Collapsible B was eventually found adrift by the Mackay-Bennett ship

In Numbers

On board the world's largest ship afloat at the time

$500 million

combined wealth of the first-class passengers

2,223

total number of people on board

840

total number of staterooms (416 first class, 162 standard class, 262 third class)

31%

Titanic was only carrying 20 out of a possible 64 lifeboats

Margaret Brown

FIRST-CLASS PASSENGER, 1867-1932

The unsinkable fireball that fought for survivors

05

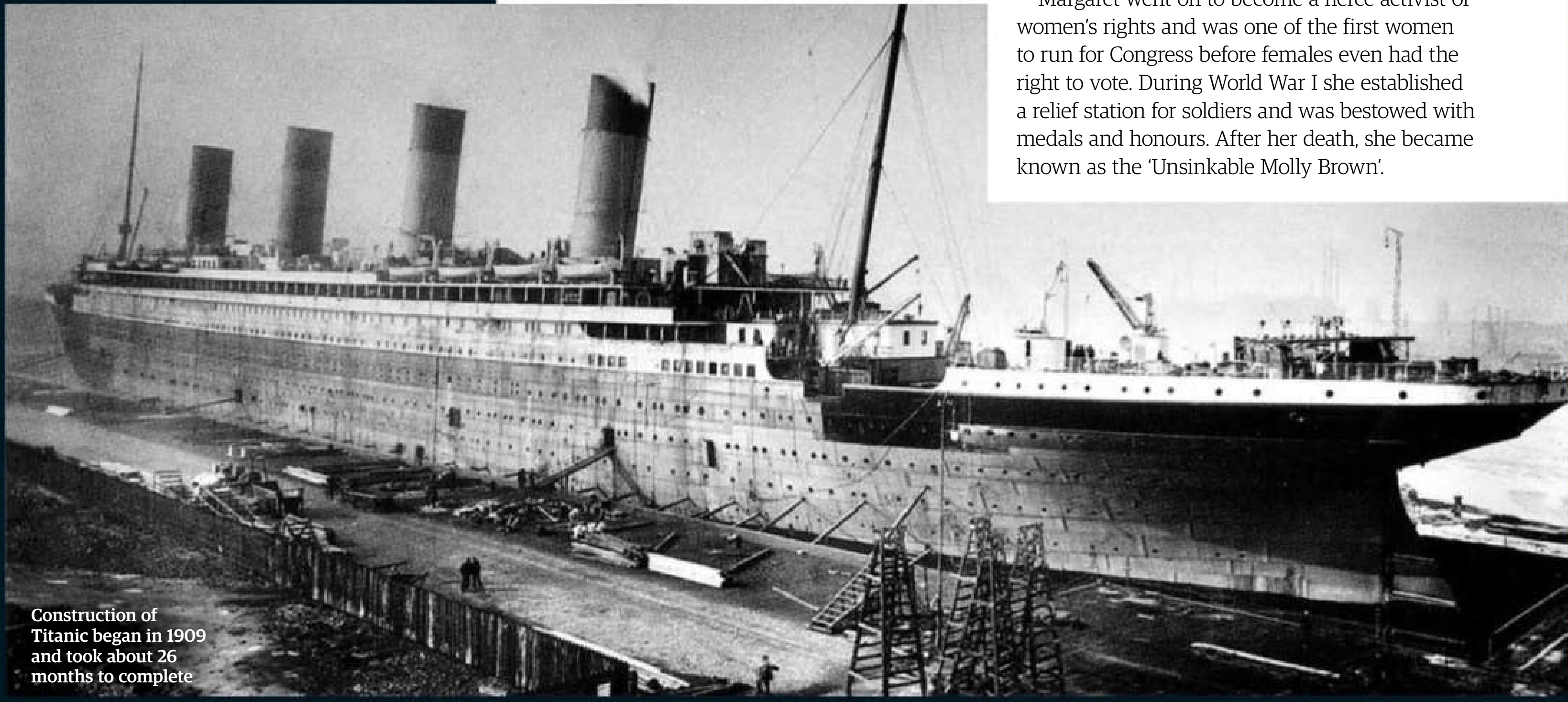
Also known as the 'Unsinkable Molly Brown', Margaret Brown was born the poor daughter of Irish immigrants. Although she dreamed of marrying a rich man, she fell in love with James Joseph Brown, a miner, and married him, later saying: "I decided that I'd be better off with a poor man whom I loved than with a wealthy one whose money had attracted me." The couple had two children and struggled with money. However, James eventually became superintendent of the mine and, thanks to his own enterprising ideas, became a hugely successful and wealthy businessman.

Margaret had boarded Titanic to visit her grandchild who was ill in New York. It was a last-minute decision, and many of her family members were unaware she was actually on board. When the ship hit the iceberg, the energetic woman leapt into action, helping several women and children into the lifeboats. After much persuasion, she eventually climbed aboard lifeboat 6 and encouraged the other women to row it with her, working hard to keep their spirits up. Quartermaster Robert Hichens was in charge of the lifeboat and Margaret reportedly clashed over the issue of going back for survivors. Margaret was determined to return for the people in the water as they still had room in the lifeboat, but Hichens feared that the people would swarm the boat and drag them down. It is unknown whether Margaret did manage to persuade him to go back or not.

However, it was her actions after the tragedy that drew the most attention. Upon boarding Carpathia, she assisted survivors, handing out food and blankets. By the time the ship arrived in New York, she had established a survivors' committee and been elected the chair of it, as well as raising $10,000 for passengers who had lost everything. She refused to leave the ship until all survivors had been reunited with friends and family or received medical assistance. With her sense of humour still intact, she wrote to her daughter: "After being brined, salted, and pickled in mid ocean I am now high and dry… I have had flowers, letters, telegrams from people until I am befuddled. They are petitioning Congress to give me a medal… If I must call a specialist to examine my head it is due to the title of Heroine of the Titanic."

Margaret went on to become a fierce activist of women's rights and was one of the first women to run for Congress before females even had the right to vote. During World War I she established a relief station for soldiers and was bestowed with medals and honours. After her death, she became known as the 'Unsinkable Molly Brown'.

A 1960 Broadway musical was produced based on Brown's life



Construction of Titanic began in 1909 and took about 26 months to complete

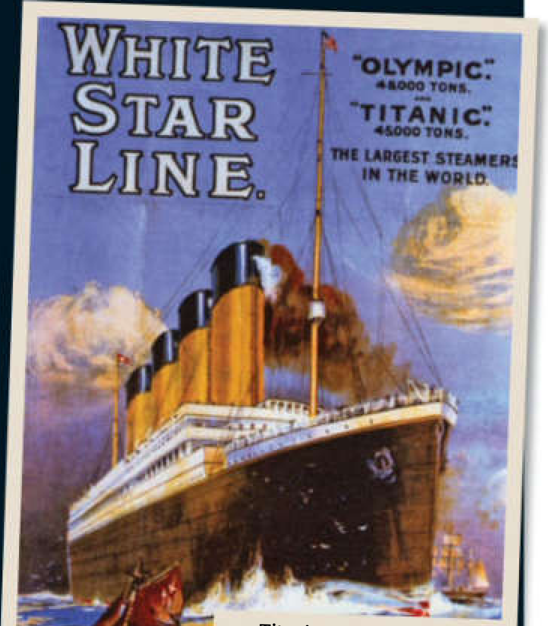
Thomas Byles

SECOND-CLASS PASSENGER, 1870-1912

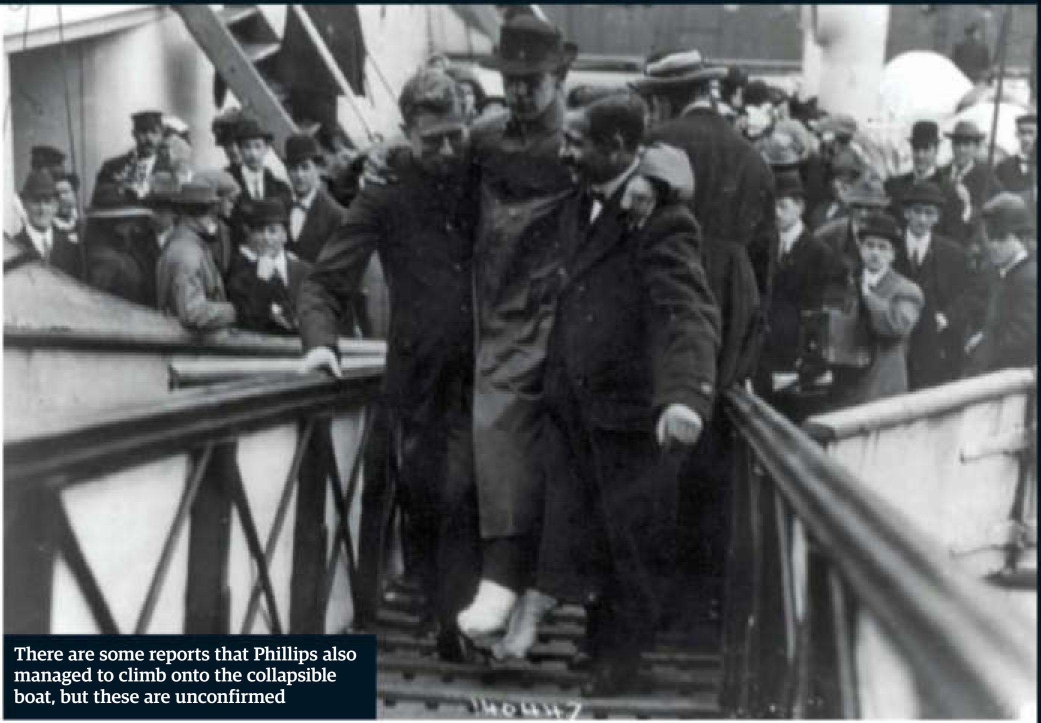
The priest providing comfort amid the panic

06

Father Thomas Byles was a Catholic priest travelling on board Titanic to officiate the wedding of his younger brother. On the day of the sinking, he preached a sermon to second and third-class passengers about their new life in the USA and a need for a spiritual lifeboat to avoid temptation. Byles was frequently seen walking on deck praying, and it was there that he was stood when the ship hit the iceberg. When the ship began to sink, he helped third-class passengers reach the deck and escape on lifeboats. As the situation gradually worsened, he moved through the panicked crowds alone, giving absolution and reciting the rosary to the trapped passengers. Twice he was invited on board a lifeboat, and both times he refused. As the passengers' deaths became imminent, Byles remained by their side, comforting them with words of god and granting absolution to those who sought it. When the ship went down, Byles was upon it, preaching the word of the lord until the very end and bringing light to the darkest of times.


WHITE STAR LINE.
"OLYMPIC."
45000 TONS.
AND
"TITANIC."
45000 TONS.
THE LARGEST STEAMERS IN THE WORLD.

Titanic's maiden voyage was heavily advertised, offering passengers unparalleled luxury



There are some reports that Phillips also managed to climb onto the collapsible boat, but these are unconfirmed

Harold Bride & Jack Phillips

WIRELESS OFFICERS, 1890-1956/1887-1912

Two men who refused to leave their posts until the end

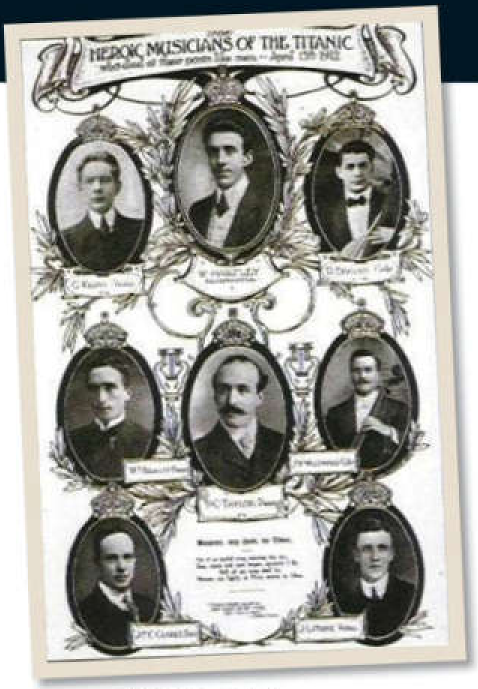
07

Harold Bride and Jack Phillips were both working as wireless officers on Titanic when it hit the iceberg. Bride had just woken up and was going to relieve an exhausted Phillips from a long night shift when the collision occurred. Unusually, neither man felt the tremor from the wireless room and it wasn't until the captain entered and told them to send out a distress signal that they were aware of any danger.

The two men, unaware of the gravity of the situation, joked as they sent out the distress call, with Bride kidding that Phillips should send out the new call 'SOS' rather than 'CQD', as it may be his last chance to send it. As the situation grew steadily more grim, Phillips worked tirelessly sending distress calls out on the wireless, while Bride dashed back and forth delivering messages between the wireless room and captain. Eventually, as the power began to cut out, the captain told them that they had done their duty and were relieved. As commotion and panic erupted on deck, Phillips continued working with dogged determination, and Bride later said: "I learned to love him that night, and I suddenly felt for him a great reverence to see him standing there sticking to his work while everybody else was raging about. I will never live to forget the work Phillips did for the last awful 15 minutes."

Jack Phillips was just 25 when he died in the disaster

As Phillips continued to work, Bride fetched life jackets for both men. However, when their backs were turned, a crew member attempted to steal Phillips' jacket. Bride quickly grabbed the man, and Phillips knocked him out. As the room began to fill with water, they left the thief to his fate and raced out, finally abandoning their posts. At this point, the two officers split up. Bride headed towards the collapsible boat still on board and Phillips disappeared towards the aft. It was the last Bride would ever see of him. As Bride attempted to help free the collapsible boat, he was washed off the ship along with it. He managed to swim furiously away from the sinking vessel to avoid being sucked down, and climbed on the collapsible boat. Bride was eventually rescued aboard Carpathia, and although seriously injured, helped the ship's wireless officer, sending out personal messages from survivors until they docked.


HEROIC MUSICIANS OF THE TITANIC

Wallace Hartley & the Titanic band

MUSICIANS

The final performance of eight brave men

08

The legend of the musicians on Titanic is one of the most well-known stories of heroism, and for good reason. The Titanic band featured eight men ranging from the age of 20 to 33, who all travelled in second class. Bandleader Wallace Hartley led them during their performances at tea time, Sunday services and an array of different occasions on board the ship, while a separate trio played outside the A La Carte restaurant and the Café Parisien. Therefore, when Hartley united the band on the night of the sinking, it was likely the first time they had all played together.

Shortly after midnight, when the lifeboats were beginning to be loaded, Hartley assembled the band in the first-class lounge and began to play. His aim was to calm the passengers. When the majority of people moved onto the boat deck, and the severity of the situation became clear, Hartley moved his band to the deck. As the ship filled with water and the decks began to slant, the band continued to play until their final moments. None of the band members survived, but the remarkable heroism and sacrifice shown by each of the men entered into legend.

Thomas Andrews

TITANIC ARCHITECT, 1873-1912

The builder who went down with his ship

09

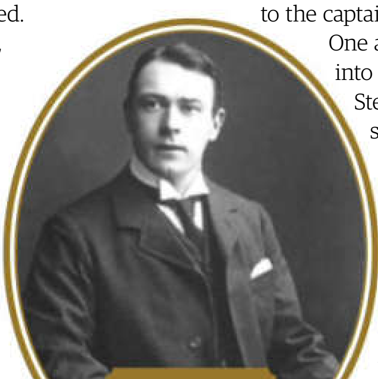
Andrews was responsible for overseeing the plans of the Olympic and the Titanic. It was Andrews who recommended that the ship carry 46 lifeboats, rather than the 20 ultimately decided, as well as suggesting it have a double hill and watertight bulkheads up to B deck. Unfortunately, all these suggestions were ignored.

When the ship hit the iceberg, Andrews was immediately consulted. As the chief designer, he was familiar with every detail of the vessel and so was perhaps the first person to understand the gravity of the situation. He informed Captain Smith that the ship sinking was a "mathematical certainty," and it would likely happen within an hour. He was also quick to warn the captain about the shortage of lifeboats on board Titanic.

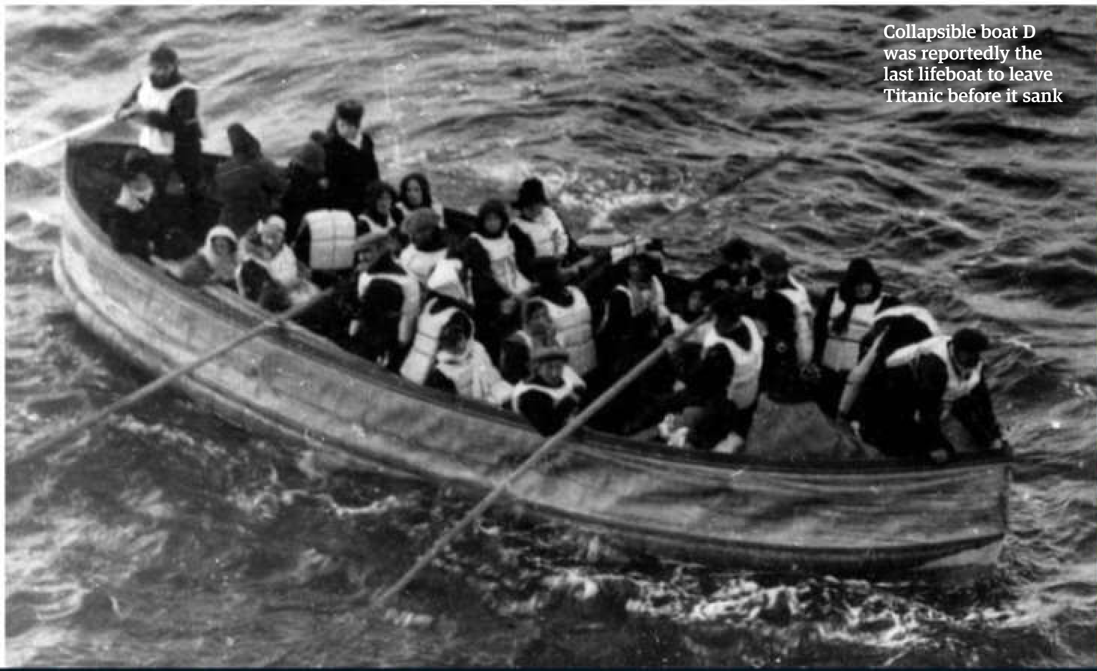
After informing the captain of the dangers, Andrews immediately set about helping as many people as possible. He dashed from stateroom to stateroom, instructing everyone he could find to put on their life belts and go up to the deck.

Although an abundance of survivors mentioned seeing Andrews during the sinking, his actions that night were so hurried and covered such a vast distance that they are impossible to track. Some passengers reported seeing him throwing deck chairs into the water to be used for flotation devices, others give accounts of him urging passengers onto the lifeboats while some report him heading to the bridge to speak to the captain.

One account of Andrews has entered into legend. A steward, John Stewart, said that he saw Andrews standing alone in the first-class smoking room shortly before the ship sunk. According to Stewart, Andrews was staring at a painting called *Plymouth Harbour*, which depicted the place that Titanic was expected to visit on its return voyage. He was standing alone with his life jacket on a nearby table. Although a poignant image, we cannot be sure if this scene actually happened, however, what we do know from the countless accounts of survivors is that Andrews tirelessly and selflessly attempted to help others at the expense of his own life. One of the stewardesses that Andrews personally saved later commented that: "Mr Andrews met his fate like a true hero, realising the great danger, and gave up his life to save the women and children of the Titanic."



Today there is one surviving ship designed by Andrews - the SS Nomadic



Collapsible boat D was reportedly the last lifeboat to leave Titanic before it sank

Cowards of Titanic

The disaster brought out the best, but also the worst, of humanity

J Bruce Ismay

1862-1937

Joseph Ismay was the chairman and managing director of White Star Line. Of the 705 survivors, he was the highest-ranking official and so attracted attention. Not only did he desert the ship while women and children were still on board, he was accused of leaving his wife and children to fend for themselves. Although reports say he helped before boarding, he was dubbed the 'Coward of the Titanic'.

Daniel Buckley

1890-1918

Buckley was an Irish-born passenger in steerage during Titanic's maiden voyage. He was on board to pursue a better life and more money in the USA. Asleep in his third-class cabin when the collision occurred, he forced his way through a locked gate and found a place on a lifeboat. However, when the men were ordered out, a woman threw her shawl over him and he hid under it. The trick saved his life. However, Buckley did not remain a coward, as he was killed helping wounded soldiers during World War I.

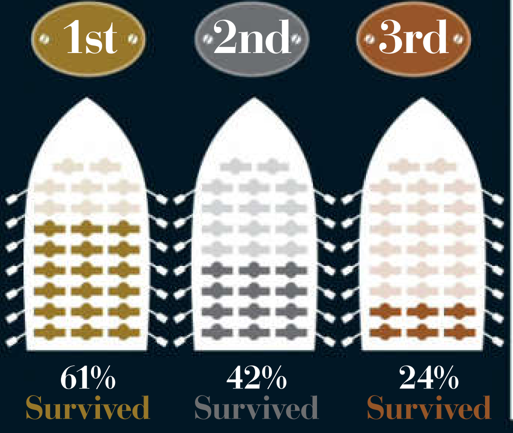
Captain Edward Smith

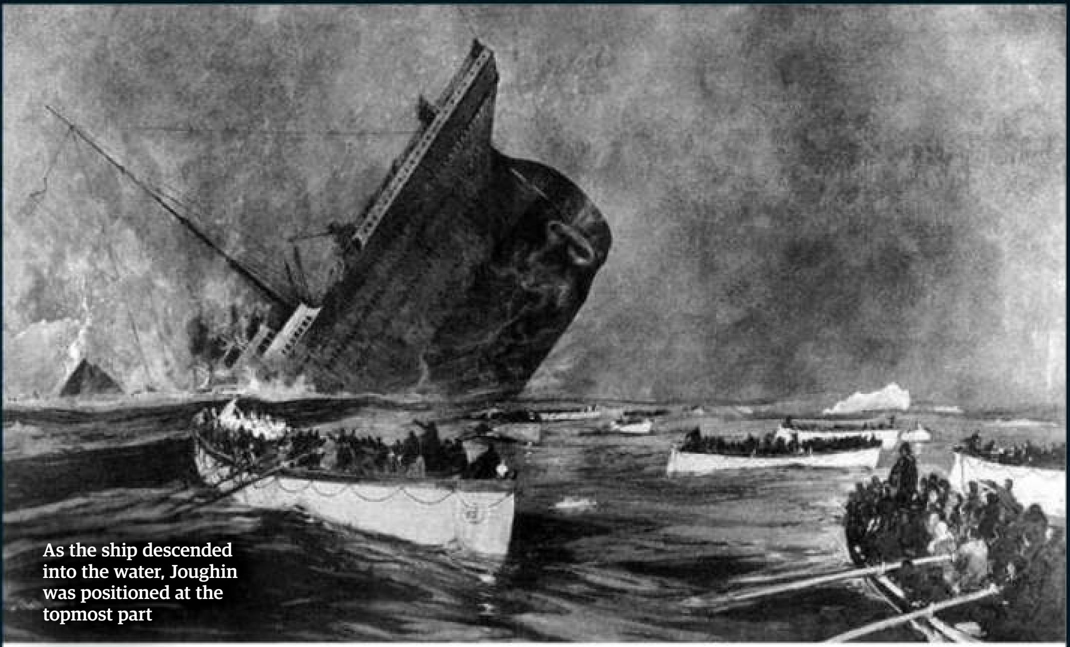
1850-1912

The story of Smith going down with Titanic is well known, and although this was a very admirable action, some believe blame for the disaster lies at his feet. The captain was aware that the ship was entering into dangerous territory, but had ignored several iceberg warnings from other ships and his own crew. Many believe that if he had called for the ship to slow down, the disaster could have been avoided. Reports of his actions after the sinking have also varied from noble to anxious and indecisive.

Escaping Titanic

The likelihood of survival wasn't entirely down to chance





As the ship descended into the water, Joughin was positioned at the topmost part

Charles Joughin

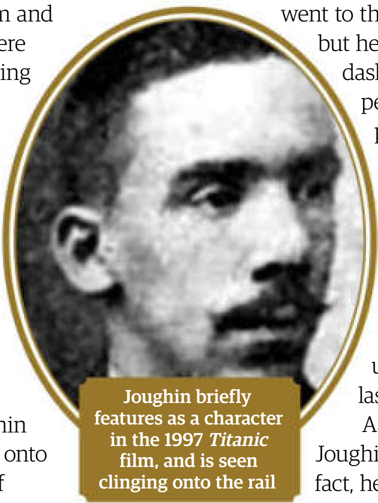
HEAD BAKER, 1878-1956

The baker saved by cunning, luck and a dose of alcohol

10

Joughin was no stranger to the sea, having embarked on his first voyage aged 11. He was a skilled cook and became chief baker for many White Star Line steamships, a role he was serving in on Titanic's ill-fated maiden voyage. When the ship struck the iceberg, Joughin was asleep in his bunk. The shock woke him and he soon learned that lifeboats were preparing to launch. Understanding that passengers would need provisions, he instructed the 13 men working under him to carry four loaves each and load them into the boats.

Understandably shaken, Joughin returned to his cabin and had a quick drink of whisky to calm his nerves. Then, at about 12.30am, he approached the boat he had been assigned, number 10. Joughin helped the women and children onto the lifeboat, but when it was half full, many were hesitant to climb in, believing they were safer on Titanic than in the perilous waters of the Atlantic. With the terrified crowd unable to listen to reason, Joughin marched down to the promenade deck, dragged them up the stairs and threw them into the lifeboat. Eventually the boat was close enough to full, but Joughin declined to climb on board, believing the sailors already there would be proficient.



Joughin briefly features as a character in the 1997 *Titanic* film, and is seen clinging onto the rail

Once the lifeboat had departed, Joughin returned to his quarters and had another drop of liquor. When he re-emerged, all the lifeboats were gone. So Joughin went down to B-Deck and threw deck chairs over the side for flotation devices. After throwing about 50 overboard, he went to the pantry for a drink of water, but heard a loud crash. Joughin dashed outside and saw crowds of people clambering to get to the poop deck. The ship lurched and threw them into a heap, but Joughin kept his footing. He grabbed the safety rail and positioned himself outside the ship as it went down. As the vessel sunk, Joughin rode it down, clutching the rail. His unique position made him the last survivor to leave Titanic.

As the ship hit the water, Joughin wasn't pulled down. In fact, he managed to almost step off, barely getting his hair wet. Joughin trod water for two hours until he glimpsed the upturned collapsible boat covered with men. One held his hand as he clung to the side, his legs submerged in the freezing water. He stayed afloat until they were rescued. The only injury he sustained was swollen feet, which many attributed to the alcohol he consumed, believing just the right amount can slow down heat loss.

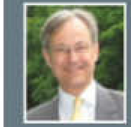
What if…

Henry VIII and Catherine of Aragon had a son?

LONDON, 1 JANUARY 1511

Written by Calum Waddell

DR STEVEN GUNN


Doctor Steven Gunn is an associate professor of modern history at the University of Oxford. His research speciality, spawning a number of acclaimed and respected journal articles and book contributions, is 15th and 16th-century English, Dutch and European history. Among his published works as an author are *Early Tudor Government, 1485-1558* (Basingstoke, 1995) and the forthcoming *Charles Brandon: Henry VII's Closest Friend* (Amberley Publishing), which is highly anticipated among scholars of British history. It will be released on 28 October.

What would have happened if Henry VIII had a son with Catherine of Aragon?

Well, first of all, let us not forget that the couple did have a son - on 1 January 1511, Catherine gave birth to Prince Henry, but he died suddenly, only living for 52 days. So what we do know is that there was enormous public rejoicing and people would have been pleased if the king's son had lived and grown to take the throne.

When the later Edward VI was born, people were also extremely happy, but by that time Henry had been trying for many years to have a son. However, the people of England liked the stability that came from a male on the throne so there would have been jubilation if Prince Henry, for instance, had lived and grown up to be king.

The second thing is that Henry VIII wouldn't have needed to keep getting married to other people. That would have been dependent on Catherine's health, of course, and once you change history it is uncertain what else might be different. For instance, would Catherine have died in 1536, only weeks after turning 50 and having been banished, or would she have had a longer and healthier life?

Also, naturally, the third thing that would have changed is the effect on the Catholic Church in England, because Henry's immediate cause to break with Rome would not have been there anymore. He wouldn't have had to divorce Catherine because she couldn't give him a male heir.

Could we have seen more than just one son?

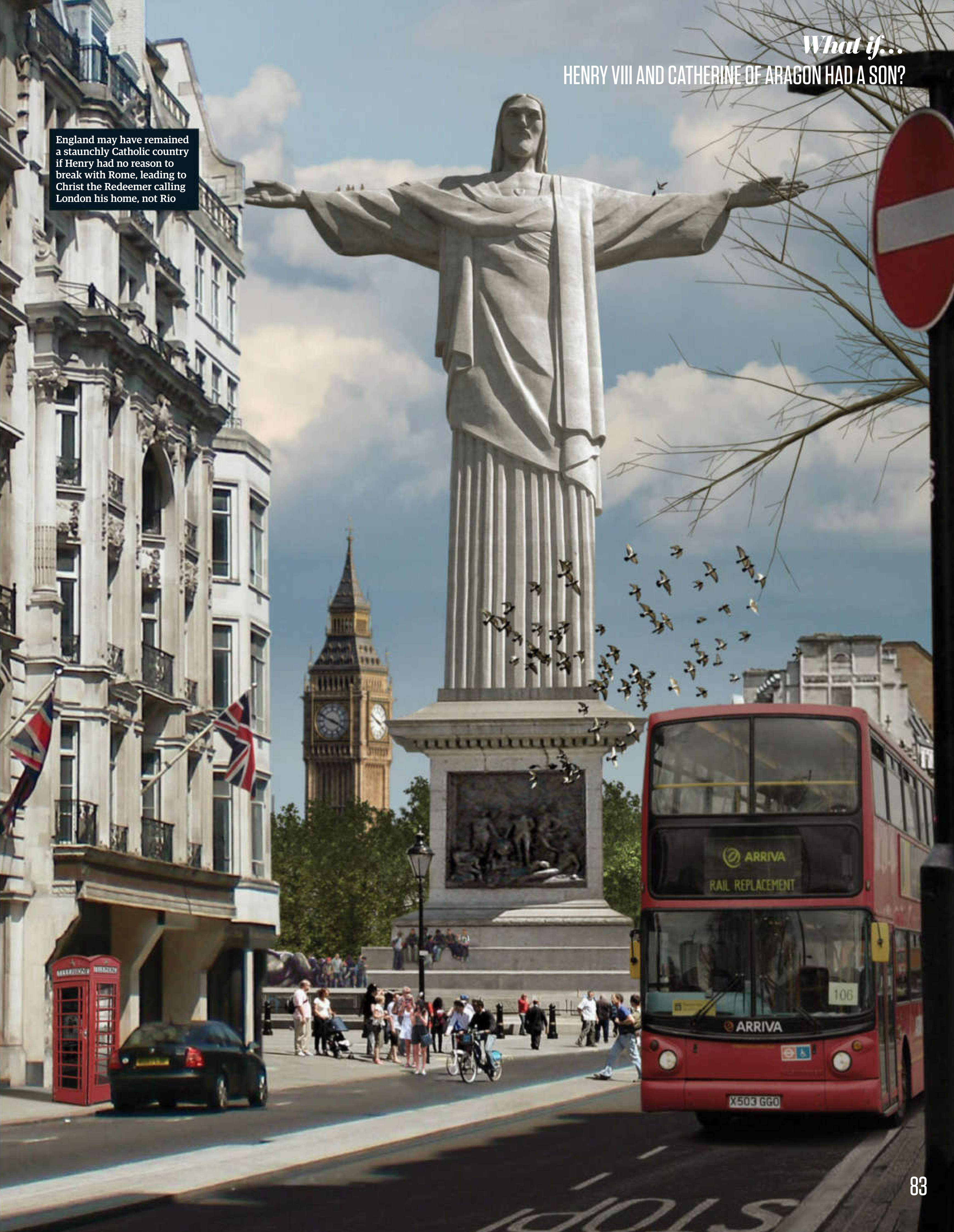
Yes, I think this is very likely. Henry's elder brother had died young and I don't think he would have been satisfied with just one. So you could have had a larger royal lineage.

How about international relations?

This is one of the most interesting questions to think about. I suspect we would have seen closer relations with the House of Habsburg. I think Henry VIII being married to Catherine strengthened their natural alliance against France. The Habsburgs were the natural rival to France for control of the low countries and Italy, and Catherine's nephew, Charles V, remained allied to the Habsburgs and waged war against France. Charles V was a Habsburg, his father was a Habsburg and his mother was from the Trastámara family, or house of Aragon, just like Catherine. There was a geopolitical logic behind an alliance between the English and the Habsburgs and you do have to wonder if a new prince, with Habsburg blood in his veins, would have been even more bound to that. A son of Henry and Catherine wouldn't have had that same bloodline, but he would have shared Trastámara blood with Charles V, leader of the Habsburgs.

Could Henry have had other reasons to divorce Catherine if the logic that she could not produce a male heir to the throne was no longer there?

Well, yes, he might have wanted more sons, as we mentioned, but then he did not accept his daughter with Catherine, Princess Mary, as legitimate. The argument was that he and Catherine had never had a marriage that should have been given legal recognition, so Mary couldn't have been a legitimate daughter. So had Henry tried to divorce Catherine after she had given him a son on the same principle, then it would have made the child illegitimate. As a result, he wouldn't have done that. When Henry broke with Rome he felt that he should have power over the English Church. He



England may have remained a staunchly Catholic country if Henry had no reason to break with Rome, leading to Christ the Redeemer calling London his home, not Rio

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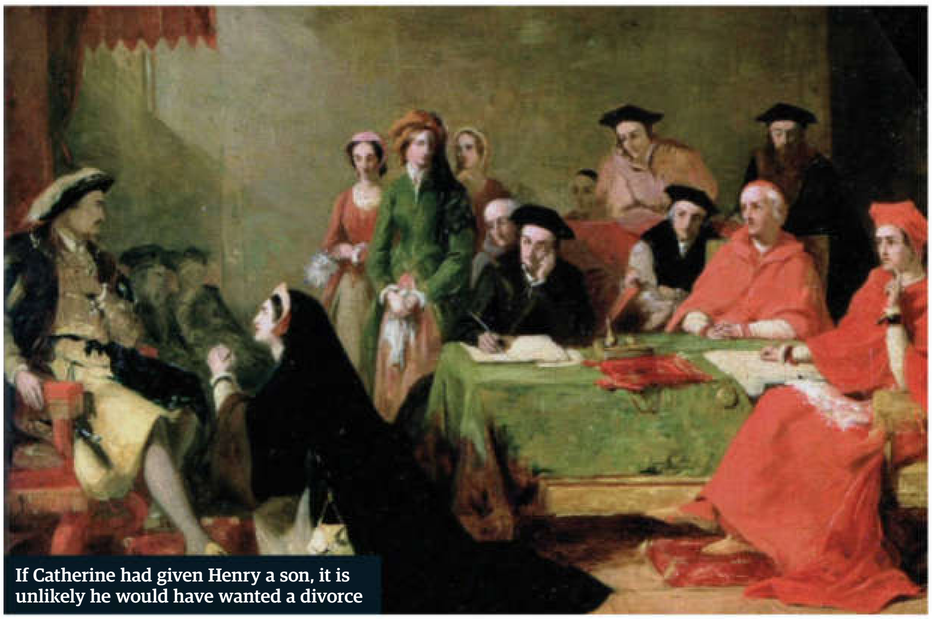
felt he was like King David or King Solomon – so when the opportunity was there to give up his power over the English Church, he really didn't want to. He wanted to keep that authority. So who knows how things would have turned out? Henry certainly didn't like Protestant doctrine. He might well have taken even more power over the Church of England and perhaps even taxed it harder.

Would having a son have saved this marriage? Or do you suspect it was always doomed?
He was very fond of Catherine when he first married her and I think that relationship would have carried on if they had been able to produce a son and, especially, if they had many male children. If you compare Henry with Francis I of France, for instance, he is not a sexual libertine. He did not have a lot of mistresses. So he would probably have stayed married. Remember that his father had remained happily married to his mother, and that was an example of a good royal marriage.

A big part of Henry's problem is that he had a conscience and he wanted to be married to the people he fell in love with. It is possible that if he had fallen out of love with Catherine, and fallen in love with someone else, he might have wanted to abandon her in the end. But, again, his main argument for divorcing her was that they had not had a son and that was proof their marriage was wrong and should never have been. He genuinely convinced himself that was true. That was what was behind the divorce campaign. Everyone eventually agreed the paperwork was messed up and he wanted the pope to agree that no religious authority should have married them in the first place.

> "He might well have taken even more power over the Church of England"



If Catherine had given Henry a son, it is unlikely he would have wanted a divorce

Of course, Henry VIII went on to marry Anne Boleyn. Does she still have a big role in history if Catherine is the mother of a son and remains queen?
It's very hard to know what would have happened there. It is difficult to figure out that relationship and how it would have transpired with Catherine bearing him a son. Would he still have fallen in love with Anne? That is impossible to say. Certainly, we might not have heard of Anne Boleyn on the same scale – she might be barely remembered.

Can we see a son as having a different legacy and attitude than Mary I who was, of course, authoritarian in imposing her theocratic beliefs?
I think we have to assume he would have been brought up to be as much like Henry as Henry could have made him. Young Edward VI was the same – he even stood the same way as his father when he was having his portrait painted. So Henry's son would have been well educated, in the way that Prince Arthur, Henry's older brother, had been. He would have brought in expert English schoolteachers and continental academics. How much of Mary's personality comes from the

How would it be different?

Real timeline

1491

Birth of Henry VIII
The future, and controversial, king of the land was the second monarch of the Tudor dynasty. His father, King Henry VII, had seized the throne in the wake of the notorious Wars of the Roses.
28 June 1491

Death of Arthur, Prince of Wales
Aged just 15, the Prince of Wales dies. He had married Catherine of Aragon a year earlier. His death haunts his brother, Henry VIII, who is later worried that one royal son might not be enough.
2 April 1502

Henry VIII takes the throne
After national mourning over the death of Henry VII, there is jubilation across England as his son takes his place as the new ruler of the land. **21 April 1509**

Henry VIII marries Catherine
Seven years after the death of her first husband, 23-year-old Catherine is married to Henry VIII. She swears that she was a virgin until her second marriage took place.
11 June 1509

Catherine and Henry's first daughter
Perhaps an ominous indication of what is to come. A royal child is announced to the people of England and Wales but, unfortunately, what would have been Henry and Catherine's first daughter together is stillborn.
31 January 1510

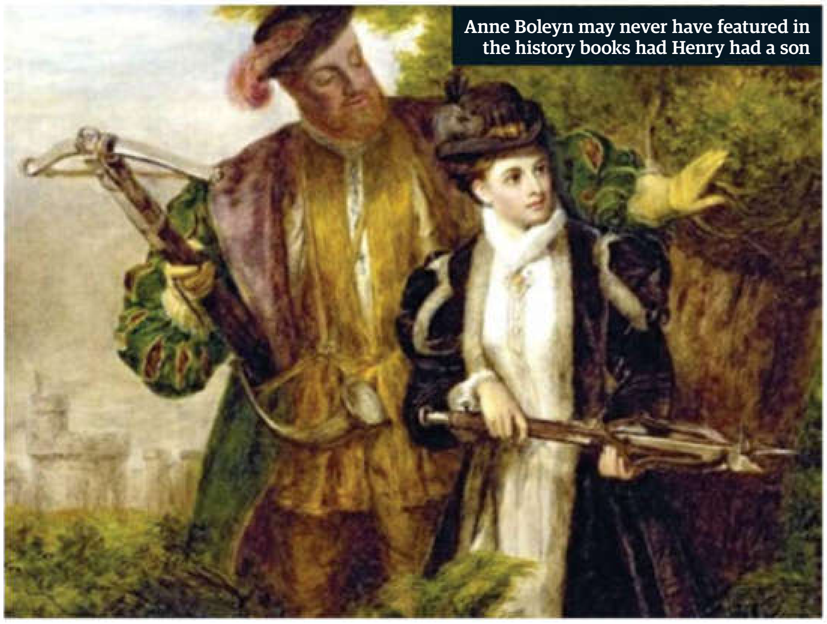
Their first son
Catherine has her second child, this time a son, just as a new year dawns. The couple are delighted as Henry, Duke of Cornwall, is officially named. Yet, 52 days later, the baby passes mysteriously. **1 January 1511**

Alternative timeline

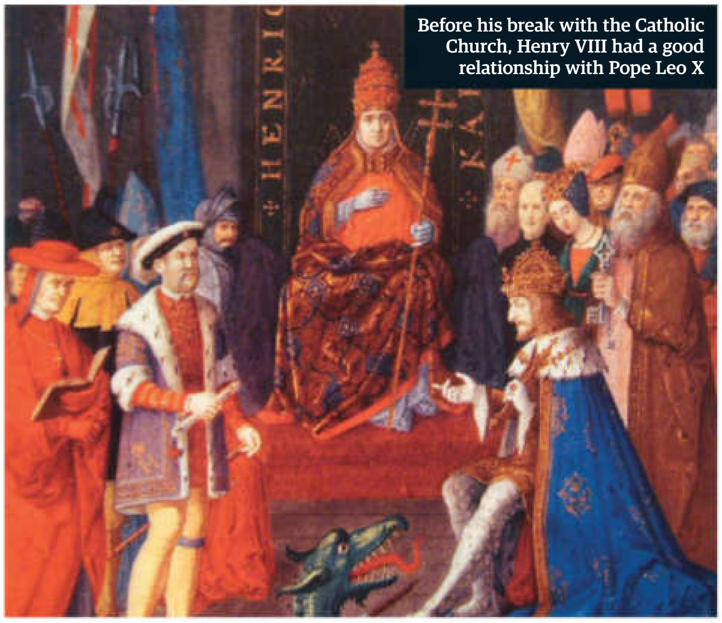
Death of Arthur, Prince of Wales
Despite being just 14, Arthur dies from a mysterious disease. Prior to his passing he was rumoured to be considering a marriage to Catherine of Aragon, who soon becomes linked with his brother.
2 January 1501

Henry VIII marries Catherine
Prior to taking the throne, Henry VIII reveals his romance with Catherine of Aragon. The two take their vows prior to the passing of his father, Henry VII.
21 December 1508

Henry VIII takes the throne
The new king also lets the people of the land know that his first intention is for his wife to birth a new prince. Still haunted by his brother's early demise, Henry VIII plans for many successors.
21 April 1509



Anne Boleyn may never have featured in the history books had Henry had a son



Before his break with the Catholic Church, Henry VIII had a good relationship with Pope Leo X

fact that for most of her adult life she had been put through the ringer by Henry is also up for discussion. Here was a woman who had been told she was illegitimate and told she might not even be in royal path of succession. At one point she even contemplated escaping to the continent. So I think a lot of her style was from the hard time she had. So without that, who knows how she would have turned out?

Do you think Catherine could have had greater influence on things such as women's rights? How much do you think her treatment by Henry VIII has inspired her sympathetic legacy?

I think she would have gone on to be seen as a successful queen. She was a strong character, politically, when she got the chance. Henry was abroad and she was in charge when the Scots invaded in 1513 and they were defeated at the Battle of Flodden. She didn't lead the armies but she did preside over domestic politics at the time. In a sense, though, part of doing her duties as queen would have been having a lot of sons. That was just the way it was back then.

Do you think this scenario might have affected the industrial revolution in some way?

No, I really do not see that connection at all. I suppose, and this is a huge stretch, that there are two ways you could argue that. The first is that the vague Protestant ethic in capitalism would not have surfaced. But even then I'm not so sure that happens if Henry doesn't break with Rome. England was a major manufacturing country, and all of that was already there before the break with Rome. Second, there is the dissolution of the monasteries, which created a new land market and led to agrarian capitalism - but you also saw that in countries such as the Netherlands long before Protestantism. So I don't really see how this would have affected the industrial revolution.

Have your say

Do you agree with our expert's view?

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Third time lucky?
Henry VIII leaves to battle France. No one will ever know whether or not her husband's absence led to Catherine's health decreasing, and a premature labour that resulted in another dead baby boy. **30 June 1513**

Successful birth of Mary I
After another failed pregnancy, the only child who successfully comes from the marriage of Henry VIII and Catherine of Aragon arrives. Mary I would later be claimed by her father to be illegitimate.
18 February 1516

An unintentional Reformation
Henry convinces himself that his marriage vows must be annulled. The church refuses to grant a divorce leading to the English Reformation. Henry appoints an archbishop, Thomas Cranmer, who acts in his interests.
Marriage annulled by Cranmer on 23 May 1533

Banishment of Catherine of Aragon
Henry VIII marries Anne Boleyn, who will later be executed on his orders, and Catherine is sent to live a secluded life in a single room in Kimbolton Castle. She never relinquishes her claim to the title of queen.
Dies: 7 January 1536

Birth of Henry, Duke of Cornwall
Catherine has her second child, Henry, Duke of Cornwall, just as 1511 arrives. News from the palace confirms the child healthy and the happy father reportedly could not be more in love with his wife.
1 January 1511

Taxation of the Catholic Church
With a fiscally disastrous reign as monarch, the king opts to tax the church and its land. There are some grumbles, but the measure proves a financial success and supports a costly war. **10 July 1516**

Execution of Protestants
Henry VIII, encouraged especially by his daughter Mary, steps up the execution of anyone identified to sympathise with Protestant doctrine. No admirer of Luther, the king makes a decree for execution without trial of any converts.
Decree made 16 March 1531

Catherine and Henry's first daughter
The first child of the new monarchs is a daughter, Mary. So far so good for the royal couple, although a son is foremost in Henry's mind.
31 January 1510

A second son
Deciding to delay his trip to France in order to oversee what is rumoured to be a tough pregnancy for his wife, Henry VIII remains at Catherine's side as a further male heir is birthed: Edward VI.
30 June 1513

All-out war against France
The king once again makes a claim as ruler of French lands. Supported by the House of Habsburg, the result is bloody war. Nevertheless, Britain captures and sustains the city of Boulogne for nearly a century.
2 January - 8 October 1530

Rough wooing
With rumours of the blasphemous Scots starting to find a 'reformation' of their own, Henry VIII calculates an invasion. It is another costly war, but Catholic doctrine is reaffirmed north of the border. Reformation? What Reformation?
22 February - 29 May 1532

© Daniel Sinoca

REVIEWS

All About History on the books, TV shows and films causing a stir in the history world

HITLER'S FORGOTTEN CHILDREN: MY LIFE INSIDE THE LEBENSBORN

Remembering the children that time forgot

Authors Ingrid von Oelhafen and Tim Tate **Publisher** Elliott & Thompson
Price £14.99 **Released** Out now

Hitler's Third Reich has gone down in history as being one of the most barbaric and brutal periods of modern history, and with so many plans, solutions and secrets to preserve Hitler's 'master race', inevitably some schemes were forgotten. Lebensborn was one of these.

Dismissed as being merely a welfare system for fatherless children at the Nuremberg Trials held by the Allies after the end of World War II, Lebensborn held many more secrets. Initiated by Himmler, the programme was intended to boost the low rate of reproduction by providing a home for unmarried pregnant women that fitted Hitler's criteria of a true Aryan. However, when the rate stubbornly refused to increase, Himmler sent out orders for Aryan-looking children from occupied countries, such as Yugoslavia and Norway, to be taken from their homes and relocated in Germany.

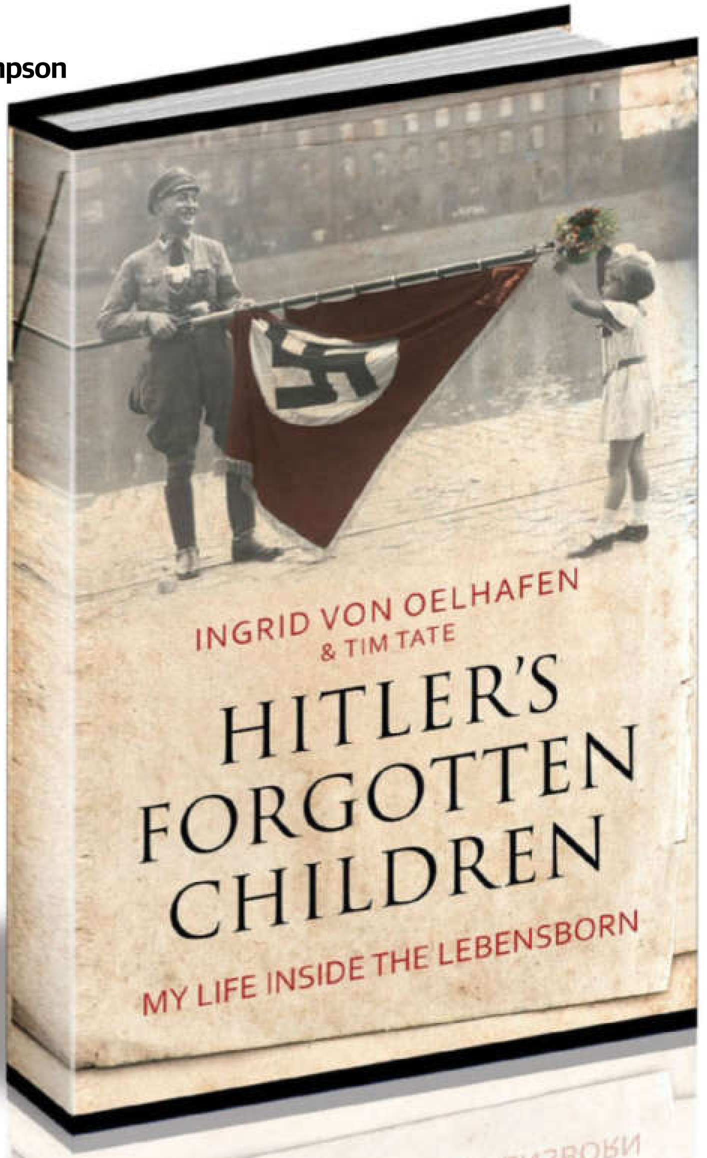
Born a child of the Lebensborn programme, Ingrid von Oelhafen's book details her memories of childhood, as well as the impact of the programme on her adult life. The narrative follows von Oelhafen as she attempts to uncover the secrets that are shrouded in her mysterious past, from her unaffectionate, distant mother and her disappearing brother, to her overwhelming need to look after children to make her living.

As an autobiography, it's an emotional read, and engagingly written. Von Oelhafen has clearly struggled to come to terms with her lost childhood, and it's clear on every page.

Von Oelhafen assumes that the reader knows little about the Lebensborn programme, and only reveals the details that she learns later on in the book when she's reflecting on her aloof and unloved childhood. It's this that makes the book much more relatable - by experiencing the distance and loneliness of von Oelhafen's youth with her, it's much easier to empathise with the tragic situation of hundreds of children during Hitler's reig

It also features a few pages of photographs contemporary to von Oelhafen's tragic youth, including headshots of the Lebensborn leaders that were acquitted at the Nuremberg Trials. It's fascinating to have access to imagery that reflects the period, and it's all the more eye opening to know that as accessible as these images are to us now, von Oelhafen fought for decades to glean even the tiniest piece of information about the programme.

There's plenty that's been forgotten over the course of history, but in recent years - predominantly through the strenuous efforts of the 'forgotten' children like von Oelhafen - the Lebensborn programme has come to light. Von Oelhafen acknowledges that the fight against racial superiority is still a very real problem today, and her honesty about her tragically lost youth serves to reflect not only on the horrors of history, but on how history has a terrible way of repeating itself.



"Von Oelhafen has clearly struggled to come to terms with her lost childhood, and it's clear on every page"

BELFAST '69

A comprehensive look at one of the darkest periods of the Irish civil rights movement

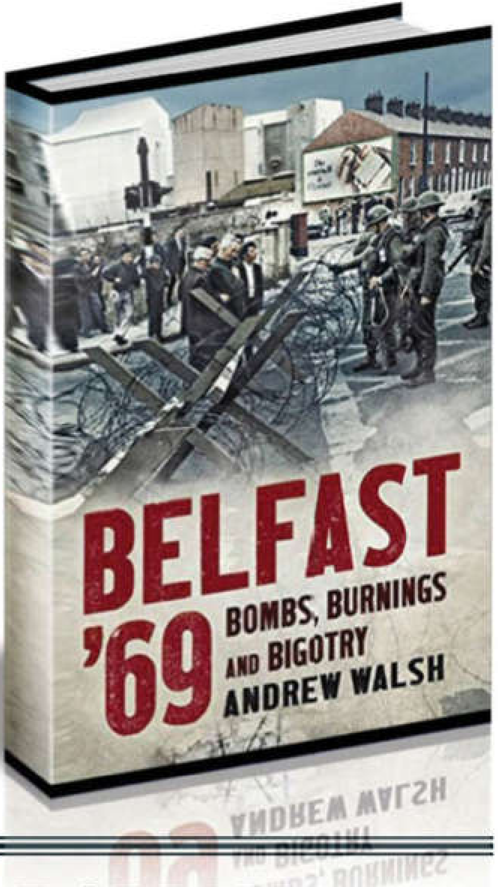
Author Andrew Walsh **Publisher** Fonthill Media **Price** £18.99 **Released** Out now

The Troubles was a civil war that raged for 30 years as Protestants and Catholics fought to decide whether Northern Ireland remained part of Britain or joined the Republic of Ireland. One of the most shocking periods of violence was a three-day bloodbath in August 1969, a series of events that Andrew Walsh describes in his book *Belfast '69: Bombs, Burnings and Bigotry.*

The tension had been simmering in Northern Ireland's capital for almost a year before it erupted as Catholics battled Protestants and the Irish police force with stones, petrol bombs and guns. Both sides were guilty of some horrific crimes, burning houses, shooting innocent people and spreading propaganda. Walsh has tracked down a number of people who were right at the heart of the battle and intersperses his historical account of the events that took place with eyewitness accounts. These interviews are used sparingly but effectively, bringing home the real human tragedy of this terrible time.

Although it is a little heavy going at first, Walsh gets into his stride quickly and his writing style reflects the seriousness of the topic while keeping the narrative moving. He has judged the tone perfectly and created a thoroughly gripping account. He comes across as unbiased and balanced, criticising the behaviour of both sides when necessary and decrying the heavy-handed techniques of the police.

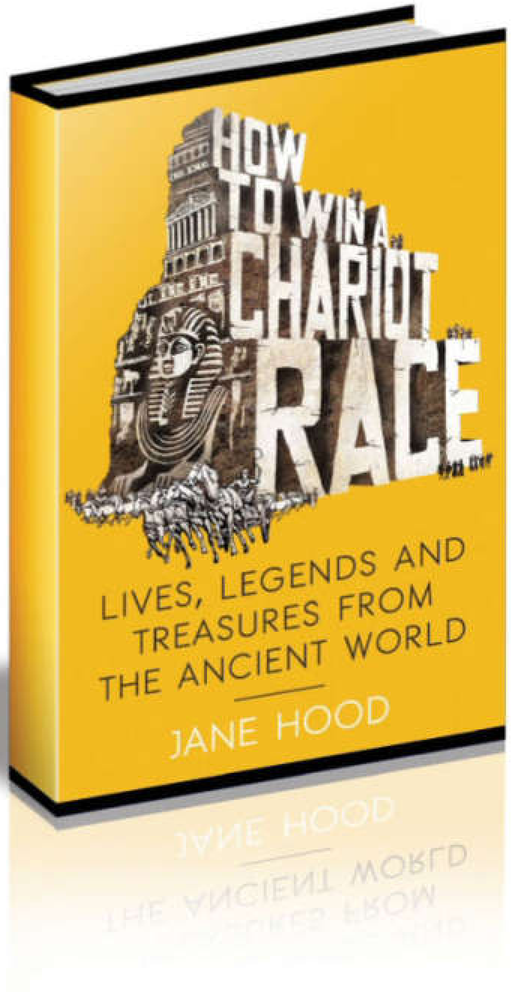
Walsh has successfully created a rich, emotional but informative record of one of the most tragic periods in living memory by focusing on j that three-day period, providing the reader with a valuable insight into the suffering of the residents of Belfast on both sides of the conflict.



HOW TO WIN A ROMAN CHARIOT RACE

The ancient world as you've never seen it before

Author Jane Hood **Publisher** Icon Books **Price** £8.99 **Released** Out now



Despite what the title suggests, this book is not a step-by-step guide about how to succeed at chariot racing, but rather a collection of facts, stories and titbits of information from the ancient world.

Written by classics lecturer and fellow of Oxford University Jane Hood, this book offers a glimpse into a variety of topics, from art and literature, to magic and medicine and even a peek into sex, drugs, rock and roll.

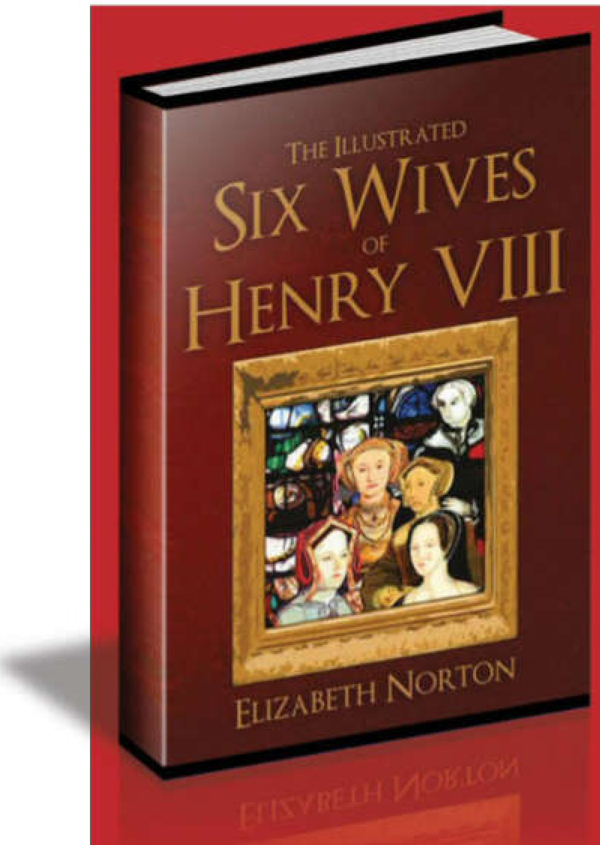
There are some absolutely fascinating tales within *How To Win A Roman Chariot Race*, particular highlights include the Roman equivalent of football hooligans, the Ancient Greek computer that has experts questioning everything we know about the ancient world, and the scandalous tales of Emperor Elagabalus. Any adults who were fans of *Horrible Histories* in their youths, or now, will certainly delight in the selection of grisly, grim and shocking stories within.

Hood writes with authority, but her style is also incredibly entertaining, making what could be quite complex subjects actually rather accessible and enjoyable. An interest in the ancient world is a must to appreciate most of the chapters, but casual readers can easily flick through and stop at any title that piques their interest.

However, as you can expect from a classics expert, the book gets increasingly more complex, specialist and philosophical as the book goes on. Although certainly not dull, the later chapters, dealing with the parallel postulate and ancient linguistics, do require more careful reading and quite a bit of concentration.

It is for this reason that this book is more suited for occasionally picking up and flicking through, rather than long periods of reading. Each chapter and each section offers a unique glimpse into the ancient world, and the finer details would be lost in lengthy reading sessions.

If you already have an interest in the ancient world, and are curious to discover details that more academic texts would likely leave out, then this book will serve you very well.



THE ILLUSTRATED SIX WIVES OF HENRY VIII

A brief history of polygamy

Author Elizabeth Norton **Publisher** Amberley **Price** £9.99 **Released** Out now

Beginning with the famous rhyme "divorced, beheaded, died," if it wasn't already clear from its thin spine that *The Illustrated Six Wives Of Henry VIII* wasn't exactly going to be the most in-depth analysis of the love life of the monogamy-phobic monarch, its opening sentence gives you an idea of the kind of tone to expect as you read on.

Essentially a primer for the scenario in which you decide you'd like to explore the topic further, it's hard to elevate this above what it is: a curtailed summary of the lives of Henry's six wives. It's not really possible to give such a potentially rich topic the amount of space to do this proper justice, and this book doesn't attempt to decide to do so. Its purpose is to be an easily accessible and equally digestible introduction to a topic that hints at the wider history involved, while simultaneously capitalising on the prominence the subject matter now has, thanks in part to the recent BBC adaptation of Hilary Mantel's *Wolf Hall.*

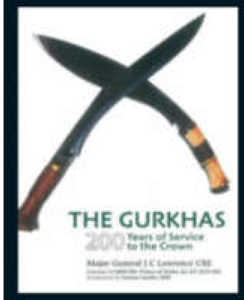
Even so, it does succeed in interrogating and challenging existing notions regarding Henry's wives. Rather than simply being his 'favourite' wife owing to her giving him the son he desperately wanted, Jane Seymour is painted as being just as vulnerable as the rest of his partners, most notably attracting his ire for pleading with him to be merciful with the rebels of the 1536 Pilgrimage of Grace. Similarly, contradicting the popular tale of Henry dismissing Anne of Cleves out of hand for her perceived 'ugliness', the two are described as having separated perfectly amicably, becoming firm friends even after their divorce.

If you're looking at the bigger picture regarding this subject matter, you might be better off looking elsewhere. For a concise take on one of the most romanticised areas in the history of the monarchy, however, this is worth taking a look at.

HISTORY of WAR RECOMMENDS...

The Gurkhas

Author: Major General J C Lawrence
Price: £40 **Publisher:** Uniform Press

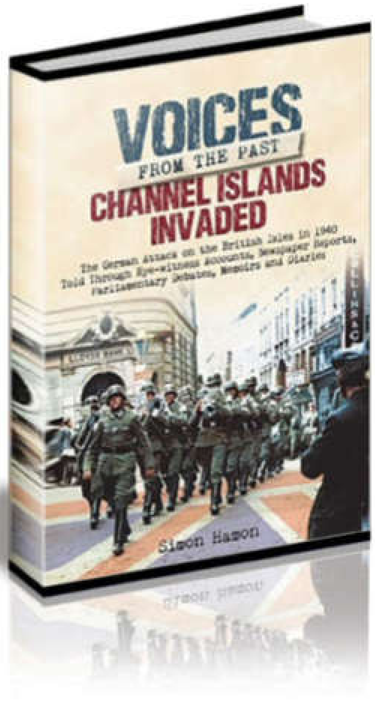

THE GURKHAS
200 Years of Service to the Crown
Major General J C Lawrence CBE

From the early 19th century right through to the modern day, the Gurkhas have been a vital part of the British army. This book sums up the full history of the regiment, resulting in a comprehensive and engaging read. The book pulls no punches, launching itself straight into the superbly detailed account of 200 years of the Gurkhas, and the imagery is spectacular throughout. The British Army owes a lot to this elite force and this book is a perfect representation of their sacrifices for king and country.

VOICES FROM THE PAST

A detailed insight into a little known event of World War II

Author Simon Hamon **Publisher** Frontline **Price** £19.99 **Released** Out now



The first chapter of *Voices From The Past: Channel Islands Invaded* is entitled 'We knew our turn was coming'. Chilling perhaps, it also demonstrates how helpless the Channel Islands were in the face of Hitler's Blitzkrieg.

Simon Hamon's book doesn't jump straight into stats and figures and instead goes for a different, more human approach. Jam packed full of quotes from the islanders on the coming terror, *Voices From The Past* is told from a different perspective, by the people who were there.

The story isn't just about the residents of the islands though. Hamon has also included the fierce debates in London as well as how the Nazis saw the islands as one of their finest propaganda victories. When reading, you can't help but think of counter-factual history: what would have happened if Britain had decided to militarise the islands? Would it have been an effective diversion from the Battle of Britain or the needless of loss of more men? We'll never know.

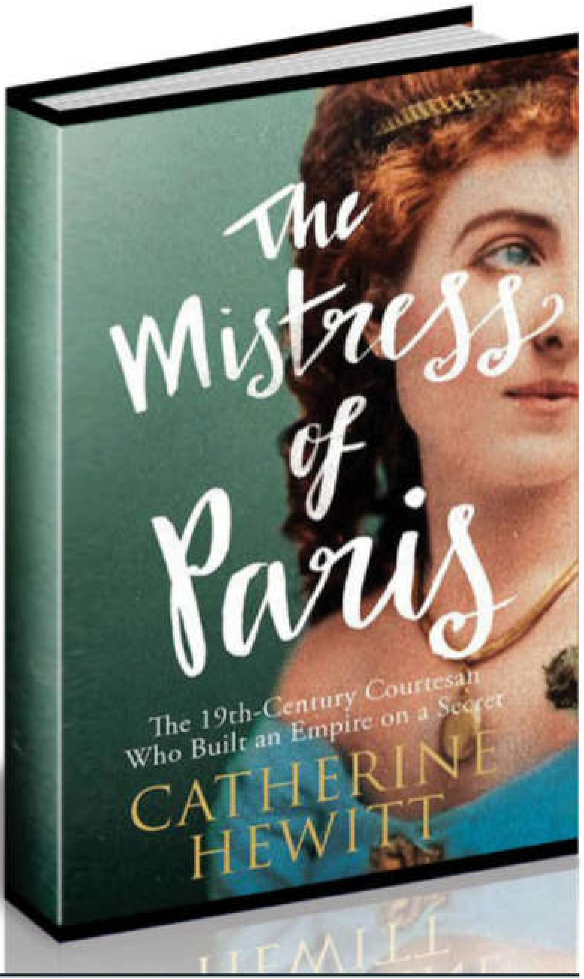
The detail included is outstanding. The chapter 'Women and children first' describes the chaotic scenes where parents only had hours to decide what to do with their children. The book delves into the darker side of the coming occupation as well, as cattle and horses were shot and equipment hidden so the enemy had as little as possible upon arrival. Once the Germans arrive, the book comes into its own, vividly describing the bombing of the islands and the tough, uncompromising German rules.

Sadly, the book ends before it can really get into the nitty gritty of the islands under occupation and the finale feels slightly rushed. This is a minor gripe, though, and *Voices From The Past: Channel Islands Invaded* is a fascinating tale, told in an inventive and enjoyable way.

THE MISTRESS OF PARIS

There is nothing like a dream to create the future

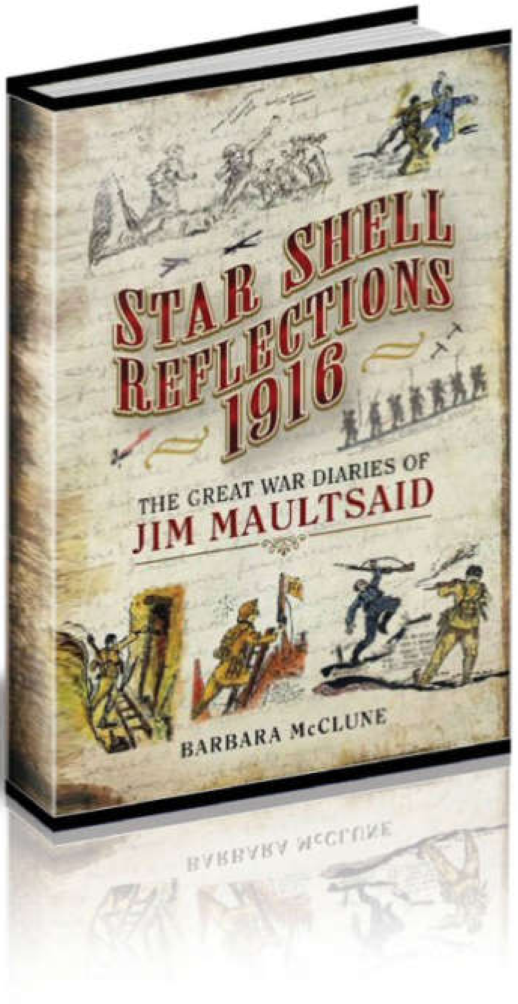
Author Catherine Hewitt **Publisher** Icon Books **Price** £20
Released 5 November 2015



For all that we're about to explore some of the not so positive aspects of this book, we want to say right from the off that it *is* incredibly readable. The story itself is innately fascinating, that of a poverty-stricken child – Louise, who becomes the self-styled Valtesse – clawing her way up to courtesan status. There's also no denying that Hewitt has a great deal of knowledge on the time period of 19th-century Paris, but her romanticisation of the facts will surely divide readers. That's not to say that it's factually inaccurate; it's more that *The Mistress Of Paris* has a clear rags-to-riches narrative that it wants to maintain that is at best a little insulting and at its worst jarringly self evident.

The Mistress Of Paris is riddled with casual disdain for almost anyone other than Valtesse, in a style more fitting for a titillating yet tasteful, wretchedly beautiful BBC series than a biographical account. Prostitutes "greedily" receive treats, and Paris is "teeming with disgruntled wives" at the heart-breaking reality of their partners having affairs. Designed to make the city and its citizens seem as sordid and disreputable as possible to better highlight Valtesse's rise to social power within the Parisian elite, were this a fictionalised work, all would be well. But there is little compassion here for the people of Paris, particularly for those who seemingly didn't want it enough, a dangerously dismissive attitude to poverty and survival. Luck appears not to play much of a part in the scandalous story Hewitt wishes to tell; it is Valtesse's driven, calculating nature that led her to succeed. Yet her mesmerising looks are mentioned frequently, the incredibly unnerving description of a teenager of 16 being "spellbound" by an eight-year-old Valtesse, "well aware of the impact she was making" stands out as being particularly unpleasant.

And yet, once Valtesse's story catapults her up the social hierarchy, the many and varied entertainments and social gatherings she attends and hosts are a pleasure to observe. If the sensationalist language isn't an issue for you, then there is still much to enjoy in this engaging account of Parisian culture.



STAR SHELL REFLECTIONS

The illustrated Great War diaries of Jim Maultsaid

Author Barbara McClune **Publisher** Pen & Sword **Price** £25.00 (hardback)
Released 30 May

More than 100 years since the Great War and there are very few people still alive today who lived through it, let alone servicemen. Florence Green, the world's last living World War I veteran, served in the Women's Royal Air Force and passed away in 2012, just before her 111th birthday.

So at best, we have second-hand stories from the mouths of sons and daughters who themselves are far from their prime. The closest thing we have to a first-hand account is this rare piece of early 20th-century literature. *Star Shell Reflections* is a detailed diary of World War I volunteer Jim Maultsaid, an American citizen living in Ireland who was as keen as any other young man to cover himself in the perceived glory of war. Luckily for us, Jim was not only a keen writer but he had a talent for drawing, too. So the diary he kept of his experiences – from enlistment to his exit from the Great War after sustaining a serious injury on the first day of the Battle of the Somme – is detailed with illustrations both practical and poetic.

Jim seems to experiment throughout, veering from implicit snapshots of trench life to more descriptive annotated images and diagrams. References to the politics of the time and charming nicknames for his comrades abound, but his comic strips have the most gravitas, intended, no doubt, to provide light relief and maybe some catharsis for the author himself. It's an insightful and extremely rare perspective on an era that has almost faded completely from living memory.

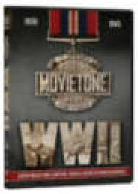
Where is this?

This 1,441-room baroque palace has been home to monarchs and famous historical figures for more than 300 years, but where is it located?

Is it…

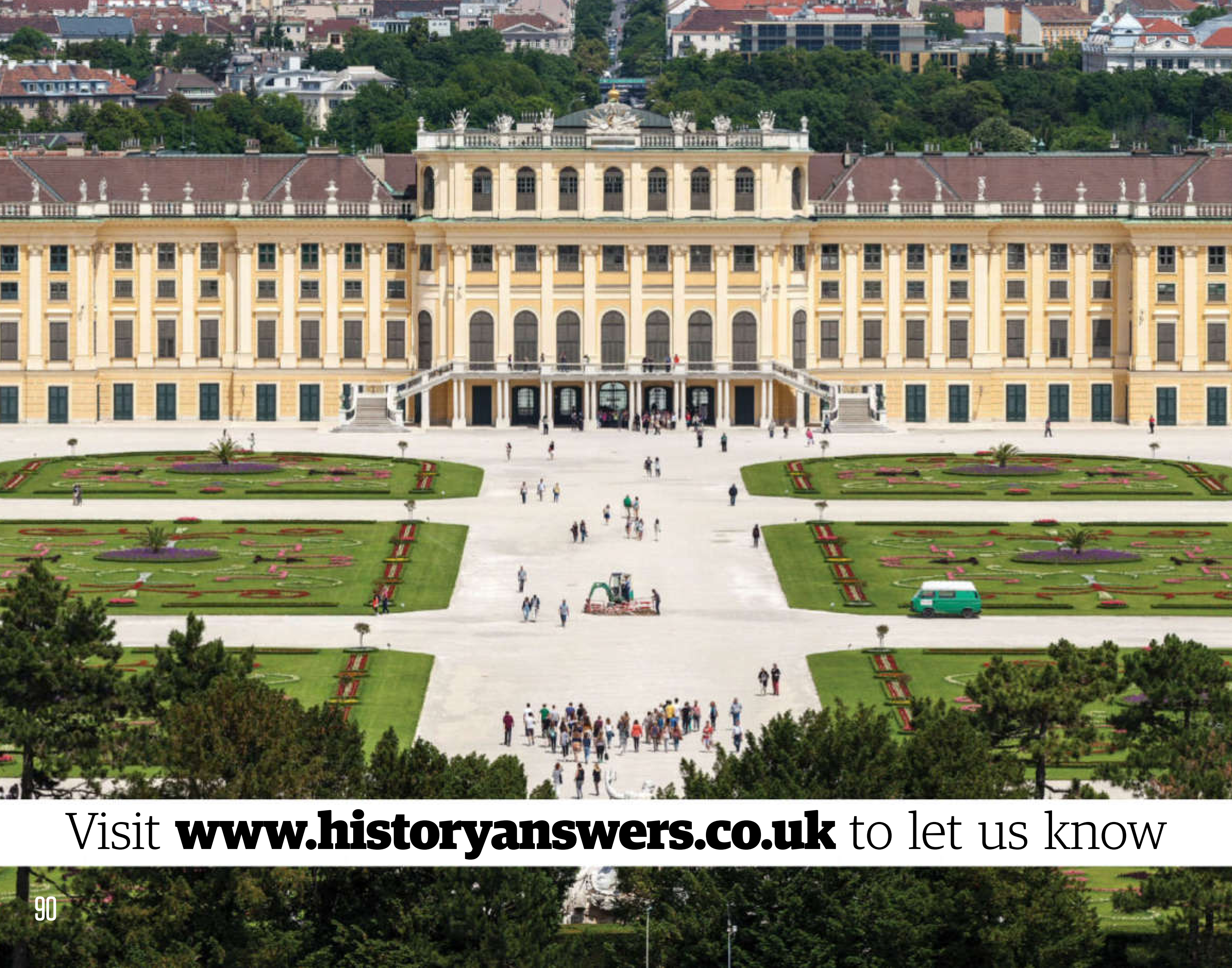
A. Austria **B.** Germany **C.** Switzerland

WIN



One of three DVD boxsets of *World War II - The British Movietone Newsreel Years Collector's Edition.* This boxset contains more than 16 hours of footage from World War II , much of it unseen since the war.

To mark the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, this box set is released by OEG Classic Movies on 7 September.



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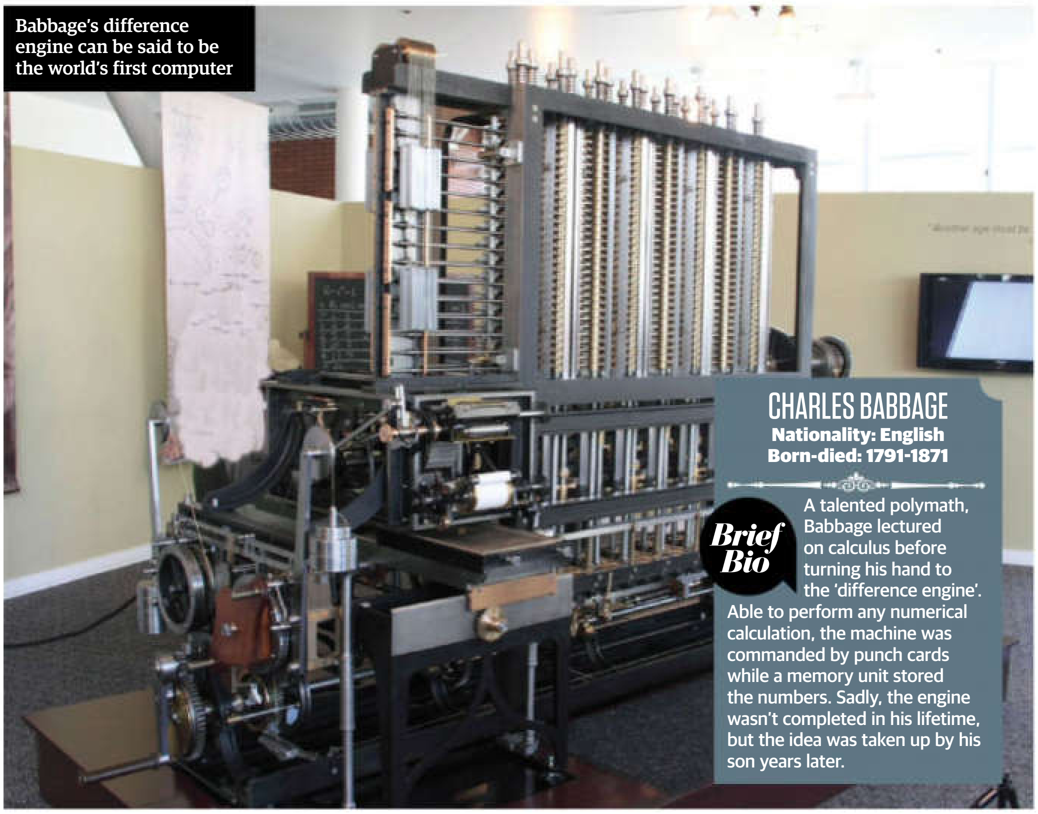


Babbage's difference engine can be said to be the world's first computer

CHARLES BABBAGE

Nationality: English

Born-died: 1791-1871

Brief Bio

A talented polymath, Babbage lectured on calculus before turning his hand to the 'difference engine'. Able to perform any numerical calculation, the machine was commanded by punch cards while a memory unit stored the numbers. Sadly, the engine wasn't completed in his lifetime, but the idea was taken up by his son years later.

When was the first computer built?

Amie Henson, Grantham

There are many possible answers to this question. The first mechanical device to perform computations was the 'difference engine' devised by Charles Babbage in 1822. It was completed by his son in 1910, and was an analytical machine that could perform basic calculations.

The next appliances to be considered computers were the machines made by Alan Turing's team during World War II to decipher codes and messages that had been scrambled by enigma machines. The first digital computers appeared shortly after, including the ENIAC in 1946, which was 1,000 times faster than anything else but took up 548 square metres (1,800 square feet) of floor space. It looked nothing like the desktop computers of today, but could undertake complex calculations.

The first modern personal computers were created in the 1970s and featured the Kenbak-1 and the TRS-80. Successful designs were created by IBM shortly after, especially the IBM 5100, which ushered in a new era of portable computers. This would become part of the template that the likes of Microsoft and Apple utilised as the 20th century wore on. So essentially, the first computer depends on how you define what a computer is.

What was Operation Bodyguard?

Luke Rodgers, Hertford

Completely unrelated to the Whitney Houston film, Operation Bodyguard was a genius tactical order by the Allies in World War II. With D-Day on the horizon, Bodyguard was designed to draw the majority of the German forces in Western Europe away from Normandy. Several schemes were used to fool the Germans. All the captured German spies in England were forced to be double agents and a double-cross system was used to make the Germans believe that fake armies were making their way to Europe from different ports than Normandy. This was done through fake radio broadcasts and physical reproductions that would look like an army from a spy plane. Diplomats from neutral countries and deliberate newspaper leaks were also used to pass on fake messages to the Nazis. Crucially, manpower was also increased on the Eastern Front and Italy to draw German forces away from the beaches of France.

Devised by the Allied 'Big Three', the operation was thought up at the Tehran Conference and was critical to the success of D-Day

This day in history 23 July

1382

Mary crowned 'king' of Hungary

The Queen Regent of Hungary and Croatia from 1382-85, Mary is actually crowned as 'king' to try and quell the public discontent over a female ruling the kingdom.

1630

Boston founded

Fleeing from persecution in England, 11 ships containing 700 Puritans set sail for the new world. After first settling at Charlestown, the settlers move away to create a 'city on a hill', and Boston is born.

1631

Battle of Breitenfeld

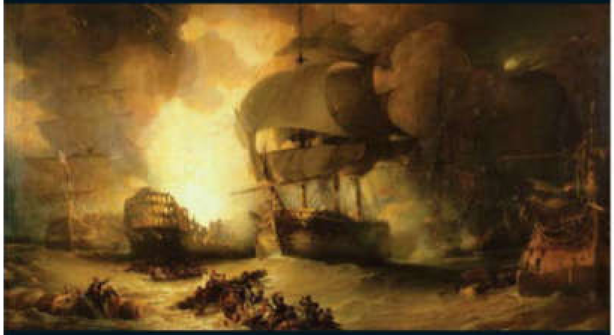
One of the most important battles of the Thirty Years' War and a major Protestant victory, the battle signifies the emergence of Sweden as a major power and exhibits the innovative tactics of Gustavus Adolphus.

1775

Invasion of Canada begins

Keen to occupy more land during the American Revolutionary War, Congress allows General Benedict Arnold to invade Canada. The campaign will be a disaster with eventual defeat for the Continental Army.

At 10pm, the largest ship on the water, the French Orient, exploded after fierce bombardment by the British



Who won the Battle of the Nile?

Harvey Fisher, Buckingham

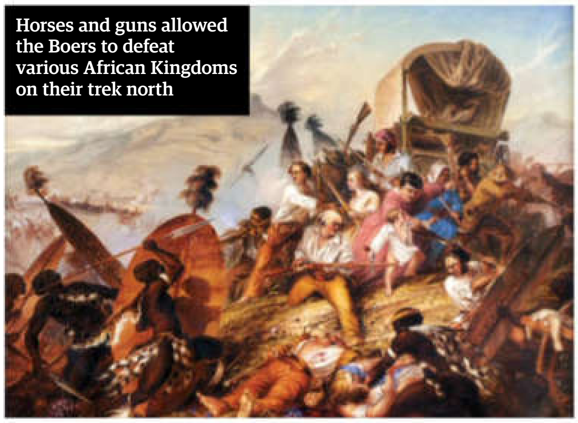
A key battle of the Napoleonic Wars, the Battle of the Nile showcased the brilliance of Rear Admiral Horatio Nelson. Each side had 13 ships of the line as Napoleon set his sights on conquering the Mediterranean and Northern Africa. The French engaged the British fleet at Abukir Bay near Alexandria and Nelson instantly attacked. The Royal Navy ships were able to manoeuvre inside the French line and open fire. Nelson was wounded but fighting continued long into the night. All but two of the French ships were sunk or captured and Napoleon's fleet suffered ten times as many casualties as the British.

What was the Great Trek?

Jessie Smith, Wrexham

In the days of empire, the arrival of British colonists often caused the current residents of the area to move away. In what is now South Africa, the Dutch Boers decided that, rather than take the British head on, they would venture north in search of an independent homeland.

Some 12-14,000 'Voortrekkers' emigrated north towards Natal and the Limpopo River, and it is reminisced in Afrikaan nationalism, but it spelled disaster for the natives, with the Sotho and Xhosa peoples forced from their homelands.

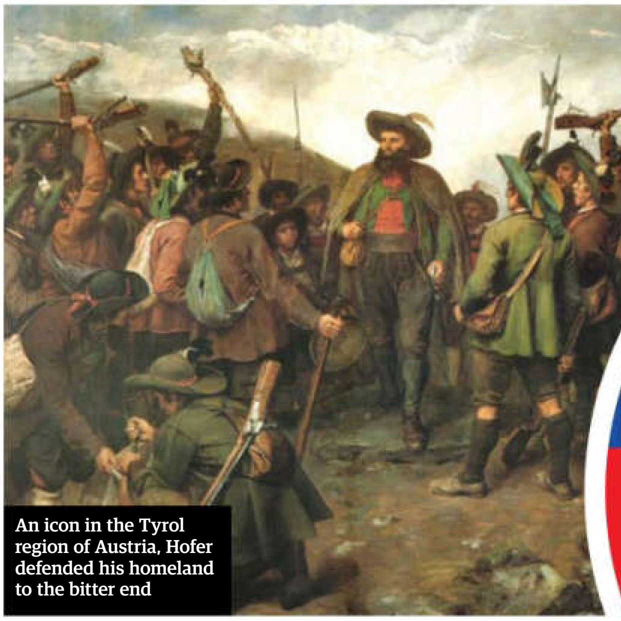


Horses and guns allowed the Boers to defeat various African Kingdoms on their trek north

Who was Andreas Hofer?

Shaun Ditum, Gravesend

Fondly remembered as an Austrian patriot, Andreas Hofer is a hero in his native Innsbruck. A fierce protector of the Tyrol region, the former innkeeper turned military leader defeated the Bavarians at the 1809 Battle of the Bergisel as part of the Tyrolean Rebellion against the French Empire. Despite the heroic stand, the Treaty of Schönbrunn ceded Hofer's homeland to the French and the resistance leader was captured and executed on Napoleon's orders.



An icon in the Tyrol region of Austria, Hofer defended his homeland to the bitter end

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@AboutHistoryMag A great photo in this month's @AboutHistoryMag showing the world's largest camera ever built, 'the Mammoth' in 1900. **@dpa_scott**

@AboutHistoryMag @HistoryofWarMag @AboutHistoryMag Got mine today. I have my evening sorted. **@GCANCELLO**

@AboutHistoryMag Just ordered the new @AboutHistoryMag && @RealCrimeMag .. Now just gotta be patient and wait for the postman lol **@hayleyxboro**

Read about the Germans hanged for treason by the Nazis at... **historyanswers.co.uk**

1862

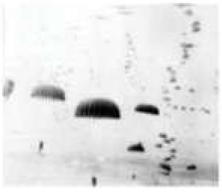
Battle of Antietam
This major battle in the American Civil War pits Lee's Confederate forces against McClellan's Union Army. The battle ends inconclusively as the Union forces fail to utilise their superior numbers.

1916

The Red Baron
The Red Baron Manfred von Richthofen, a German Luftstreitkräfte flying ace, wins the first of what would be many aerial combat victories near Cambrai, France.

1944

Market Garden
In an incredibly daring operation, the Allies attempt to drop 30,000 men behind enemy lines to liberate the Netherlands. The largest airborne operation in military history, it was deemed a failure.



2001

Stock exchange reopens
After the 9/11 attacks in the US, the New York Stock Exchange was closed for six days. On this day, it reopens for trading; the closure remains the longest since the Great Depression.

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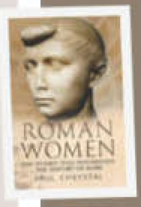

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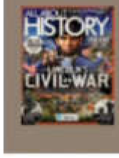

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A chance to boast about famous or significant ancestors

A surprise reunion

James Wells

In 1917, my maternal grandfather enlisted in the army and my maternal grandmother was completely derisive about this enlistment

"Working in the arsenal for three guineas a week and all the overtime that he could have wanted, joined the army for a lousy two guineas a week in paper money and no overtime".

In retrospect, what was to become the most amusing story of the two world wars, my grandmother received the first telegram saying that the War Office "sincerely regretted" that my grandfather had been posted as: "Missing in action".

Ten days later she received the second telegram that the War Office "further regretted" that grandfather had now been posted: "Killed in action."

About two months later, grandfather turned up on the doorstep, alive and well. Coming back on leave from Vimy Ridge, the ferry on which grandfather had been travelling was torpedoed by a German U-boat. Having got into a lifeboat, he then got out of it to help passengers into the lifeboat and then had to again abandon a sinking ship.

Grandfather then claimed that an officer noted this re-boarding action and was going to write a citation for a decoration. Apparently, the officer concerned didn't survive the sinking and the family opportunity for a Medal of Distinction passed.

Grandfather was eventually pulled out of the Channel by a Japanese ship, which couldn't stop long in case the U-boat was still around. Long forgotten is that during World War I, the Japanese were one of the Allies.

Send your memories to: @ allabouthistory@imagine-publishing.co.uk

A SOLDIER
F THE GREAT WAR

Grandfather was eventually landed in Alexandria, Egypt, where due to the limited telegraph facility being fully bogged down with war work, he was unable to tell his unit that he was alive and well. The "missing" and "killed" telegrams were then duly sent to grandmother.

Eventually, he got a lift on a P&O liner, which dropped him in the London Docks. Walking down Jamaica Road in Bermondsey where my grandparents then lived, he was puzzled by twitching curtains in the various houses.

As he reached the front gate, the front door opened and grandmother, dressed in black and ready to go to his requiem mass, saw grandfather and came out with a classic remark: "Oh, I've just spent your insurance money".

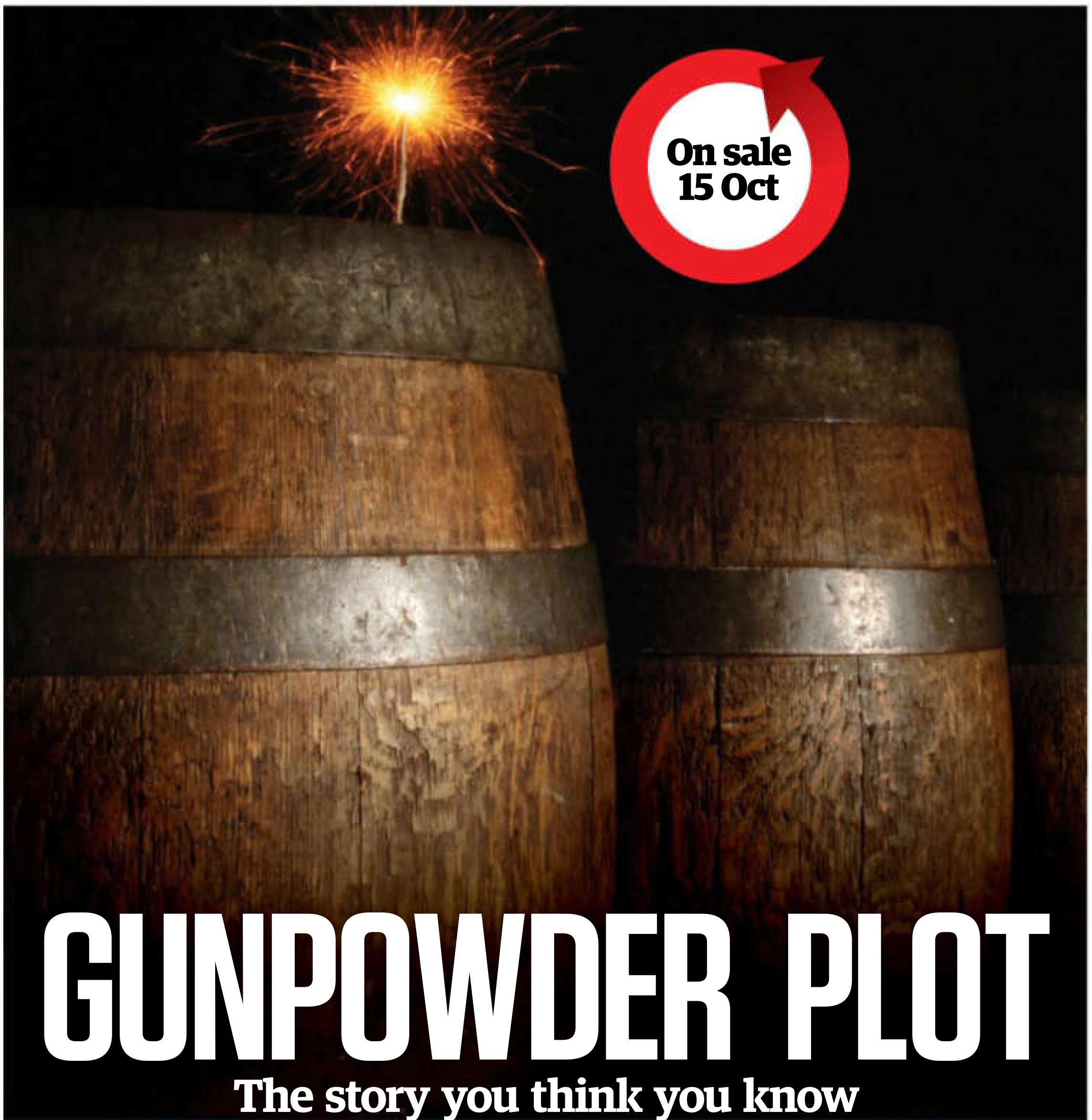
Grandfather eventually went to serve in Mesopotamia fighting the Turks. Having qualified as a marksman he was eventually detailed off as a member of a firing squad. For the firing squad, an officer was supposed to load one rifle at random with a live round. As a live round always produced greater recoil than blanks, the firer was always aware of having fired the live round. Being part of a firing squad also earned an extra payment. Grandfather stayed in the army after the end of World War I, going on to serve in India as that country began the steps towards independence.

Leaving the last word to grandmother, as 50 years later she still hadn't changed her mind: "Look at your Grandfather, served in two world wars and it's never done him the slightest good."

Do you have any family stories to share? /AllAboutHistory @AboutHistoryMag

NEXT ISSUE

What does the future hold for **All About History?**



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The story you think you know

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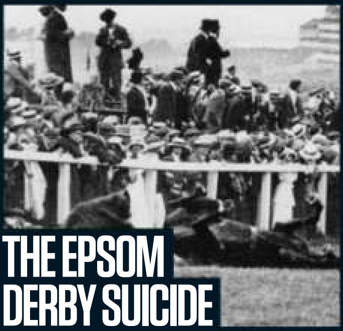
How Henry V overcame the odds in the Hundred Years' War



THE EPSOM DERBY SUICIDE

Did Emily Davison really choose to die for women's rights?

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Web: www.imagine-publishing.co.uk
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Magazine team

Editor **Alicea Francis**
alicea.francis@imagine-publishing.co.uk
☎ 01202 586260
Art Editor **Stephen Williams**
Senior Staff Writer **Frances White**
Production Editor **Callie Green**
Research Editor **Peter Price**
Photographer **James Sheppard**
Editor in Chief **James Hoare**
Senior Art Editor **Helen Harris**
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Contributors
Barry Strauss, Ben Biggs, Calum Waddell, David Crookes, Dom Reseigh-Lincoln, Jack Griffiths, Jackie Snowden, Jamie Frier, Jodie Tyley, Rebecca Richards, Scott Reeves, Steve Wright

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Joe Cummings

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hang.deretz@imagine-publishing.co.uk
Account Manager Lee Mussell
☎ 01202 586424
lee.mussell@imagine-publishing.co.uk

International
All About History is available for licensing. Contact the International department to discuss partnership opportunities.

Head of International Licensing Cathy Blackman
☎ +44 (0) 1202 586401
licensing@imagine-publishing.co.uk

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Head of Circulation Darren Pearce
☎ 01202 586200

Production
Production Director Jane Hawkins
☎ 01202 586200

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Finance Director Marco Peroni

Founder
Group Managing Director Damian Butt

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Henry V (1386–1422). Artist unknown. Oil on panel. 16th century.

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HISTORY VS HOLLYWOOD

Fact versus fiction on the silver screen

LINCOLN

Director: Steven Spielberg **Starring:** Daniel Day-Lewis, Sally Field, David Strathairn **Country:** USA **Released:** 2012

Do we stand divided on the accuracy of this ambitious film?

B

VERDICT A few mistakes, but on the whole *Lincoln* has a solid historical foundation

WHAT THEY GOT WRONG...

01 In the film, two congressmen from Connecticut vote against the Thirteenth Amendment, however, all four of Connecticut's congressmen voted in its favour in 1865. The screenwriter said this was altered to convey just how narrow the margin was.

02 Lincoln's dialogue is littered with curse words throughout the film. Although he may have used the occasional swear word while telling a story, he actually very rarely swore. Contemporary accounts reveal that Lincoln objected when people swore in his presence.

03 In real life, Lincoln's relationship with his oldest son was as strained as it is in the film, however, it is very unlikely that he ever slapped him. There's no evidence that this event occurred, and accounts of Lincoln often focus on how he loathed personal violence.

04 When Lincoln is in his deathbed in the film, he is dressed in a nightgown and laid on his side. In reality, Lincoln was so tall that he had to be laid diagonally across the bed. The president was also naked, as doctors stripped him to search for other wounds.

WHAT THEY GOT RIGHT...

The secretary of state really did use lobbyists to recruit democratic votes for the amendment. The wavering democrats were offered a variety of inducements to obtain their votes. While we can't be sure what exactly was offered to the democrats, every part of this plot is completely true, even the larger-than-life lobbyist WN Bilbo.

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NORTH EAST INDIA 2016

One of the undoubted highlights of our 2014 programme was the Journey of Remembrance to India.
We are pleased to offer this Journey again in 2016, with the bonus of an excursion to Imphal.
At Kohima and Imphal in the remote hillsides of North East India, the tide of the war in the East turned against the Japanese in 1944.
This unique tour offers a rare opportunity to honour those who so bravely fought and fell as we hold Services of Remembrance at both Kohima and Imphal War Cemeteries.
The tranquil and unspoilt beauty of North East India with its thick forests, lush valleys, emerald tea gardens and great rivers is in stark contrast to the cities of Kolkata (Calcutta) and Delhi, a fusion of modern skyscrapers and Victorian monuments to the Raj.

YPRES ARMISTICE DAY 2016

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Every single day, regardless of the weather, the Ypres buglers, who are members of the local fire brigade, perform their ode to the fallen.
No battlefield of the Great War saw more intensive fighting than the Ypres Salient in Belgium. Down the Menin Road, on Messines Ridge and at Passchendaele, nearly every regiment in the British Army passed this way. Many thousands never returned. We will also visit sites associated with the various campaigns in the Ypres area and have a chance to pay our respects by laying wreaths at some of the cemeteries, including Tyne Cot Commonwealth War Graves Cemetery and the Memorial to the Missing.
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